

BRITISH EMPIRE IN PICTURES

Book I

*An illustrated description of Economic
and Social Activities in the regions of*

THE EMPIRE IN NORTH AMERICA and the WEST INDIES

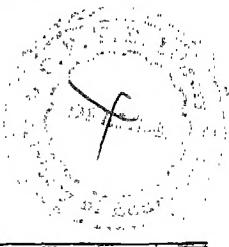
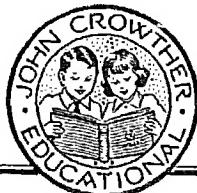
by

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With Historical Notes by

B. D. M. CARPENTER TURNER, B.A.

*Includes the declaration of the Empire Ministers at the close of the
London Conference, 16th May, 1944*



JOHN CROWTHER (EDUCATIONAL) LTD., BOGNOR REGIS, SUSSEX

UNIFORM WITH
THIS FIRST VOLUME

BRITISH EMPIRE
IN PICTURES

Book II
THE EMPIRE IN AFRICA

Book III
THE EMPIRE IN ASIA
AND AUSTRALASIA

THESE books, uniform with
this volume, are by the
same authors. The three works
combined give a complete
illustrated account of the
British Empire.

FOREWORD

THE "British Empire in Pictures" is a set of three books, the purpose of which is to set before the student, by means of a series of representative pictures, the important parts of the British Commonwealth of Nations, in the hope that this visual aid will stimulate interest in these countries.

An obvious advantage lies in the careful study of a few selected pictures over a cursory glancing at many, and it is hoped that this book will start students off making picture notebooks of their own, to contain not only pictures but the owners' comments thereon.

Exercises have been included in each book to encourage further research and independent study.

I am indebted to my collaborator, Mrs. B. Carpenter Turner, B.A., for the very useful historical notes which have been included.

I am also very grateful to the following for supplying the photographs, without which the production of this book would not have been possible: Office of the High Commissioner of Canada, Imperial Institute, and Newfoundland Trade Commissioner.

C. B. G.

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Section One

SURVEY OF THE PHYSICAL DIVISIONS, CLIMATE, NATURAL REGIONS

THE countries within the British Commonwealth of Nations which can be considered as associated with the continent of North America are Newfoundland, Canada, and some of the islands of the West Indies.

Newfoundland is a large island lying off the east coast of Canada, almost within the wide mouth of the St. Lawrence River. With Newfoundland is associated part of the mainland called Labrador.

Canada stretches right from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, across the northern half of the continent, and from the Great Lakes and the 49th Parallel almost to the North Pole.

The islands of the West Indies lie between North and South America, between the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico.

Canada can be divided into three main physical regions :

1. *The Eastern Highlands.* These are made up of a continuation of the Appalachian Mountains of the U.S.A. to the east, and of the Laurentian Highlands to the north, of the St. Lawrence, but are not of very great height or importance.

2. *The Central Lowlands.* These stretch right from the St. Lawrence in the east across the whole of Central Canada as far as the foothills of the Rockies in the west. They include the St. Lawrence lowland ; the Lake Peninsula between Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron ; the Hudson Bay lowlands ; and the wide stretch of the prairies across the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, north-westwards to the delta of the Mackenzie River.

3. *The Western Highlands.* These consist of four parallel lines of hills, the highest being in the east, where it forms the boundary of the prairies.

(a) *The Rocky Mountains.* This mountain range is about sixty miles wide in Canada, and some of the peaks are nearly 13,000 feet high (e.g., Mt. Robson, 12,972 feet). Between this range and the next to the west is the Rocky Mountain Trench, a great valley seven hundred miles long, drained by several large rivers.

(b) *The Selkirk, Gold and Cariboo Ranges,* which separate the Trench from the British Columbian Plateau, a high flat land very much cut up into deep valleys by the rivers from the Trench.

(c) *The Cascade Range*—between the Plateau and the coast. This mountain belt is wider than that of the Rockies, but its greatest height is just over 9,000 feet. The high mountains go right down to the coast, which is deeply indented with winding fiords.

(d) *The Coast Range*, which forms the backbone of Vancouver Island, Queen Charlotte Islands, and the extreme south of Alaska. The Strait of Georgia, between the mainland and the islands, can be compared with the Rocky Mountain Trench but, of course, it is submerged.

The Climate of Canada and Newfoundland shows great extremes as between Summer and Winter, especially in the Central Lowlands region.

The most equable temperatures are found in the coastal areas of British Columbia. The chief wind here is the rain-bearing westerly wind from the Pacific—south-westerly in Winter, north-westerly in Summer. But further inland, the mountain ranges lower the temperatures but increase the rainfall on their western sides, but raise the temperatures and decrease the rainfall to the east.

During Winter, the whole of Central Canada is exposed to cold north-westerly winds that blow right down into the mid-west States of the U.S.A. These winds bring snow and a long Winter to the prairie region and as far east as the St. Lawrence.

In Summer, the reverse takes place, and a large area of warmth spreads northwards from the Mississippi Valley, so that the prairie region has very warm Summers.

The Lake Peninsula, between the Great Lakes, does not have quite so cold a Winter because the temperatures are raised by the presence of the stretches of water, but the Summers are warm.

Newfoundland is affected by the cold current of water from Labrador, and has cold Winters and cool Summers, with a considerable amount of fog and what we usually call " raw " weather.

The area around Hudson Bay, and north-westwards along the Mackenzie River, has long cold Winters but short, warm Summers, with many hours of sunshine each day.

The Natural Regions of Canada are defined as follows :

(a) *The Maritime Provinces*, consisting of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia (including Cape Breton Island), and New Brunswick. Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island have some very good coal mines, and so have developed local industries.

Along the coastlands of the Bay of Fundy are some very rich agricultural lands, especially along the estuaries of the rivers and where the land is occasionally flooded, and hay used for Winter cattle-food is one of the most important crops grown.

Just south of the coastal hill range of northern Nova Scotia is the Annapolis-Cornwallis Valley, about one hundred miles long and ten miles wide, which has specialized in the growing of fruit, especially apples.

Off the coasts of the Maritime Provinces are some of the best fishing grounds of North America. The chief catches are cod, halibut, mackerel, small herrings canned as "sardines," and lobsters.

(b) *St. Lawrence Valley.* This is the area of low-lying land on each side of the St. Lawrence. Most of this land is to the south-east of the river, as the hard rocks of North Canada come close down to the left bank.

This lowland region is one of the oldest cultivated areas of Canada, being settled by the original French settlers. One of the main crops of this region used to be wheat, but there is now too much competition from the prairies so the farmers concentrate on dairy produce, growing hay for Winter fodder.

(c) *Lake Peninsula.* This might almost be considered an extension of the St. Lawrence Valley, but is cut off from it by hard rock that crosses the St. Lawrence between Kingston and Cornwall.

The climate of the Peninsula is improved by the presence of the lakes by which it is almost surrounded, and this, together with the very fertile soil, has made the region a great mixed farming area, with some places near the coasts of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie that are famous for their fruit—ranging from apples and pears to peaches, apricots and grapes. Tobacco is grown also.

(d) *The Prairies.* These extend from Winnipeg to the Rockies, and are undulating grasslands rising towards the west and best known because of their great production of wheat, although much of the area is given up to mixed farming, and some parts are so dry that cattle-ranching is the only possible use that can be made of the vegetation.

(e) *The Canadian Shield.* Northwards of these last three regions lies a great area of very hard rock that gives practically no soil. This is a region of bare rock and thousands of lakes, of use only for hunting and fishing until recently, when great mineral wealth was discovered in the ancient rocks. As a result of this, it is

probable that this may become one of the most important regions of an industrial Canada.

(f) *British Columbia*—sometimes described as a “sea of mountains.” This area has already been well described under the heading of Western Highlands, although it should be realized that a considerable part of the Rockies is within the Province of Alberta.

Some of the valleys of British Columbia have proved valuable for fruit farming, apples being the chief crop, with plums second. Minerals, including gold, lead, zinc and copper are being mined in the southern part of the Province, and at Trail is one of the largest copper smelting works in the world.

Communications. The railways of Canada are grouped under two main lines now. The Canadian Pacific Railway, which is privately owned, and the Canadian National Railway, which is publicly owned by the Federal Government, which took over the Grand Trunk, Grand Trunk Pacific, Canadian Northern and Intercolonial Railways in 1923.

The C.P.R. and the C.N.R. are trans-continental systems, both own stretches of line in the U.S.A., and both run shipping lines outside Canada. Both are hoping to run airway lines after the War—the C.P.R. as the Canadian Pacific Airlines, and the C.N.R. as the Trans-Canada Airline.

The most natural line of communication is the St. Lawrence waterway, consisting of the River and the Great Lakes from which it flows. Unfortunately, traffic on this waterway is stopped by ice for five months of each year.

PRELIMINARY MAP EXERCISES

- Find out, and write down, the latitudes and longitudes which are the limits of
 - Newfoundland.
 - Canada.
 - West Indian Islands.
- Find places in the British Isles and Europe that are in the same latitude as the following places :

St. John's (Newfoundland).		Halifax, N.S.
Quebec City.	Winnipeg.	Churchill.
Toronto.	Windsor.	Vancouver.
Bermuda.	Kingston, Jamaica.	

3. Name the chief Canadian rivers which flow (a) to the Atlantic Ocean ; (b) to Hudson Bay and the Arctic Ocean ; (c) to the Pacific Ocean.
4. On an outline map of Canada, draw the isotherms for the following :

0° F. January ; 20° F. January.

55° F. July ; 65° F. July.

Account for any prominent curves in the lines.

Mark in the two main railway routes crossing Canada, indicating the chief towns through which they pass.

5. Using an outline map of Canada, indicate the chief regions into which Canada can be divided, and by shading or otherwise, mark the various mountain ranges of Western Canada.
6. After studying the map, try to sketch from memory the St. Lawrence Waterway—from the western end of Lake Superior to the mouth of the St. Lawrence.
7. Draw a sketch of the larger islands of the West Indies, indicating those that are British.

Section Two

COMMENTARIES ON THE PICTURES

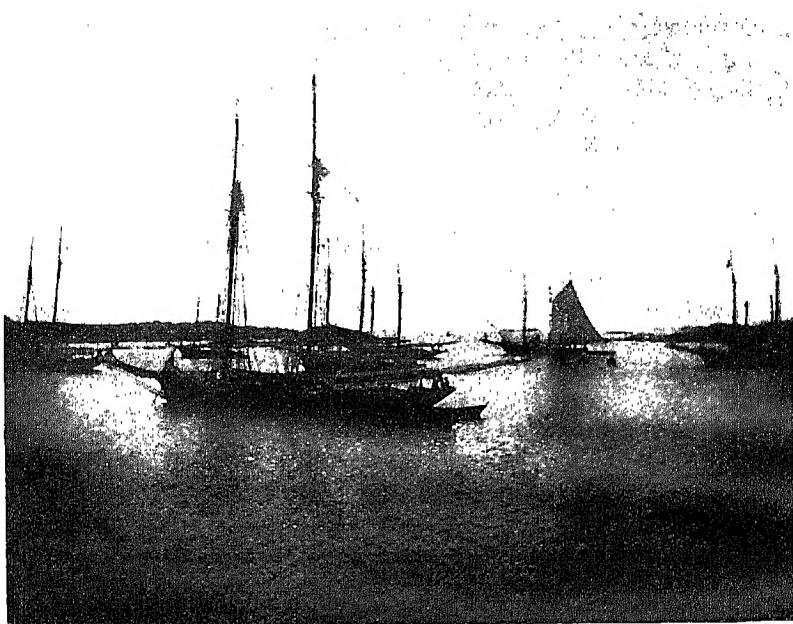
I FISHING BOATS, NEWFOUNDLAND

OFF the southern coast of Newfoundland lies one of the great fishing grounds of the world. Here there is an area of shallow water where the plankton on which the fish feed are accumulated.

Probably the fact that the warm Gulf Stream flowing to the north-east intermingles on its northern side with the cold Labrador Current flowing to the south-west, plays a great part in this accumulation of foodstuff.

The most extensive of these shallow areas, *The Grand Bank*, is the scene of extensive cod fishing. This type of fishing is done with lines having each about one hundred hooks baited with pieces of small fish. Small boats, or dories, leave the larger parent ship and throw out dozens of these lines, bringing back their catches to the parent ship.

Many of the vessels engaged in this type of fishing are sailing boats, although most of them to-day are fitted with an auxiliary engine. Less than half of the boats are of Newfoundland register, as fishermen come from Canada, the U.S.A., and even from the Breton coast of France to fish these waters.



Fishing Boats, Newfoundland

Newfoundland Trade Commissioner

Although much of the fish is landed at St. John's, the largest port of Newfoundland, quite a large amount goes to Halifax and Lunenburg in Nova Scotia for salting and preserving.

In addition to this deep-sea fishing there is onshore fishing, which includes the catching of herrings, usually whilst they are still small, so that they can be canned and exported to the Central American countries as sardines.

Our picture shows some of the fishing fleet, all schooners, which are normally engaged in cod fishing. Many of these vessels will have come from north-west France and Spain.

Other fish caught off these coasts are halibut, haddock, hake and mackerel, with lobsters and oysters amongst the "inshore" catches.

On an outline map of Newfoundland, show the directions of the Gulf Stream and the Labrador Current, and mark in the area known as Grand Bank.

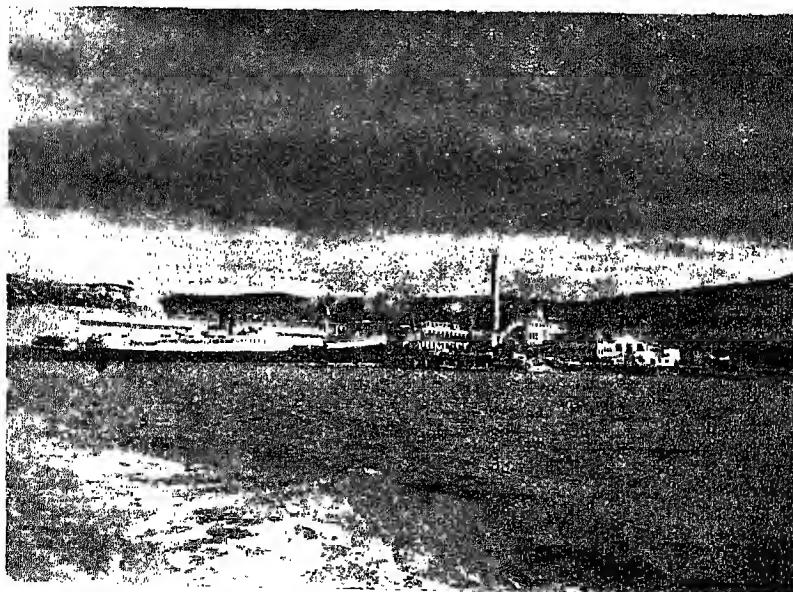
Make a list of the countries to which Newfoundland would send her fish products.

2 WOOD-PULP INDUSTRY, NEWFOUNDLAND

NEWFOUNDLAND is within the belt of coniferous forests that is continued right across the northern stretches of Canada. These forests include large areas, or stands, of spruce, which is one of the best trees for conversion into wood-pulp.

Wood-pulp is made by sawing up the logs into very small chunks and then mixing it with salt water until a mash is made. This mash is continually stirred and passed through shredding machines until the woody particles are very fine and the mixture becomes even. After this it depends on what final use is to be made of the wood-pulp as to what process takes place next.

Most of the Newfoundland pulp is made into newsprint, the greater amount of which comes to this country. But, by the addition of various chemicals, it is possible to convert the raw product into such differing things as imitation leather, cellophane, rayon from which "silk" stockings can be made, perspex for the cockpits of aircraft, and different kinds of "unbreakable glass."



Wood-pulp Industry, Newfoundland

Newfoundland Trade Commissioner
(Credit Line to Lee Wulf, N.Y. City)

These forests of Newfoundland are one of the island's greatest assets, and the Government has made regulations whereby a certain amount of re-afforestation must be done every year, so as to ensure that there will be a regular supply of younger trees to replace those cut down. There are also regulations ensuring that trees below a certain size are not used.

Our picture shows a pulp and paper mill at Corner Brook, Newfoundland. The paper shed in the foreground has a capacity for 60,000 tons of newsprint, and is claimed to be the largest paper shed in the world.

The large vessel, an "intermediate" or passenger-cargo boat, is awaiting cargo, which probably consists of very large rolls of finished paper, each roll containing five miles of paper.

On an outline map of Newfoundland, mark in the names of the chief towns.

Newfoundland is not important as an agricultural region. Why?

3

COAL MINE, NOVA SCOTIA

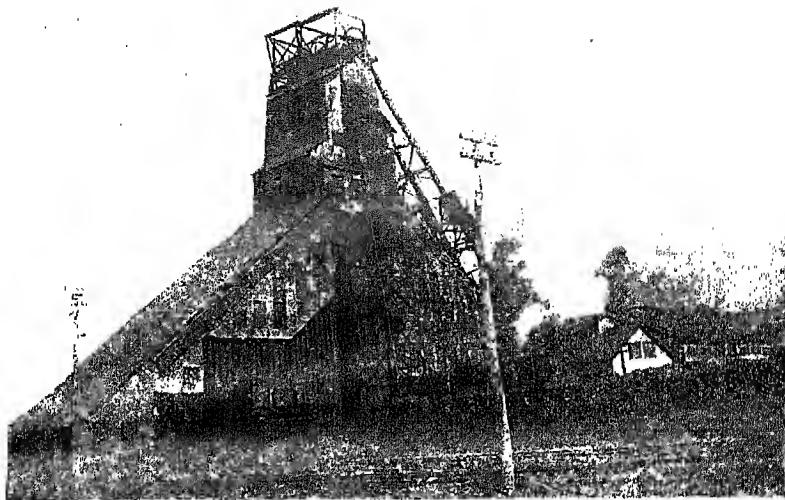
THE coal-fields of Nova Scotia are the most important in all Canada, chiefly because the coal is good bituminous and very suitable for blast-furnace coking, gas manufacture, and as a steam coal.

It is estimated that there are ten million tons of this coal, the most important area being around the town of Sydney in Cape Breton Island. There are three other coal-fields—the Inverness field, on the western shore of Cape Breton Island; the Pictou field on the mainland; and the Cumberland field on Chignecto Bay.

In most cases the coal is found in very thick seams. The Stellarton seam is forty feet thick, and many other seams are from ten to twelve feet thick. This thickness means that up-to-date methods of mining can be used—either by using coal-cutting machines, or by blasting the coal and shovelling up the broken lumps into trucks.

Our picture shows the hauling gear at the top of the shaft at the No. 2 Colliery at Grace Bay, Nova Scotia. To the right of the picture, in the shed from which steam is escaping, is the winding gear which hauls up the filled trucks from below, and also the cages by which the miners enter or leave the mine.

Nova Scotia is rich also in deposits of limestone, but the amount of iron found is very small. Fortunately, however, it is not difficult or



Coal Mine, Nova Scotia

From the Imperial Institute Collections
South Kensington

expensive to import high-grade hematite ore from the Wabana deposits in Newfoundland. This has led to the growth of large areas engaged in the iron and steel industries, especially in Cape Breton Island and in Pictou county.

Find out what other parts of Canada have coal deposits.

Why have not these other parts developed as industrial centres?

4

FRUIT GROWING, NOVA SCOTIA

IN the picture the earth's surface looks like a patchwork quilt, doesn't it? That's because so many kinds of things can be grown in this part of Canada. Nova Scotia is one of the Maritime Provinces of Eastern Canada, and the picture shows the region around Grand Pre in the Annapolis-Cornwallis Valley.

Your map will show that the north-east coast of Nova Scotia is bounded by the Bay of Fundy. Along the coast is a line of hills (North Mountains), and about ten miles south-west of these is another line of hills (South Mountains). Between these two

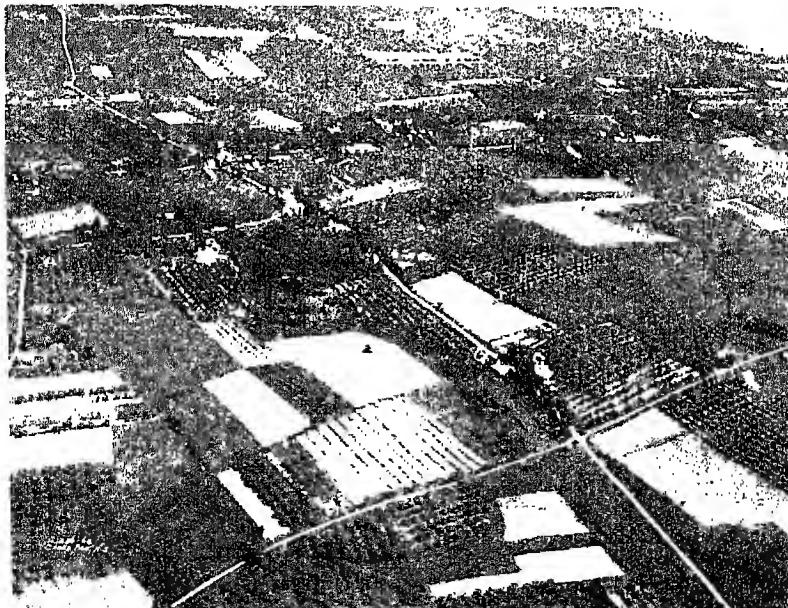
lines of hills the Annapolis-Cornwallis Valley stretches for about one hundred miles, though only ten miles wide at its widest part. This valley is covered with a good soil for growing fruit and, because of the shelter offered by the hills the weather is very mild, so that the fruit ripens well.

Apples form one of the chief crops, and the picture shows some of the orchards, but pears and plums are also important, and there are great amounts of bush-fruits such as currants and gooseberries, as well as raspberries and strawberries.

Most of the farm-houses are built of wood, which is plentiful in the Maritime Provinces, and each farm grows its own supplies of vegetables and usually keeps a few head of cattle.

Have you noticed that the roads are wide and fairly straight? That is because so much of the crop is taken to market by motor lorries—the Canadians call them “trucks.”

More than half the apples grown in this valley are sent to

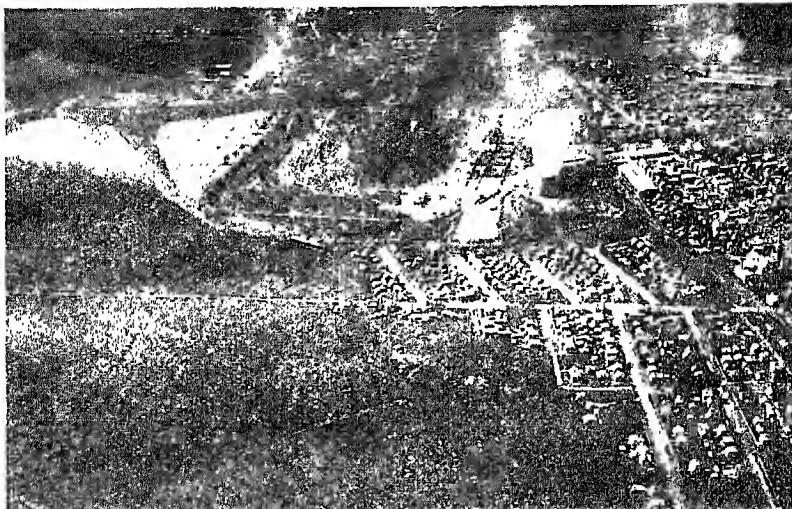


Fruit Growing, Nova Scotia

Royal Canadian Air Force Photograph

this country, packed in large barrels. The pears and plums, usually wrapped in separate papers, are packed in boxes. All the wood used in these barrels and boxes has been grown in Canada or Newfoundland. So was the paper!

Locate Halifax. Find what advantages it possesses as a port.



Asbestos Mining at Thetford, Quebec Province Office of High Commissioner for Canada

5

ASBESTOS MINING AT THETFORD, QUEBEC PROVINCE

MANY of you will have seen an "asbestos" garage. Most of you will know that such a garage is fireproof, because it is built with material that will not burn.

This fireproof material is made from a rock mined, for the most part, in the Province of Quebec in Canada.

Perhaps you have also seen sheets of asbestos that seemed to be made of a type of "cloth." This asbestos cloth is used in making fireproof clothing for firemen and others who wish to be protected from the danger of fire. If you go to a theatre, the curtain that comes down in front of the stage at least once during the performance is made of asbestos sheeting, because the law demands a "fireproof" curtain.

This asbestos is obtained from a fibrous type of rock that is found in many parts of Canada, but particularly near Thetford in Quebec Province. The special thing about this rock is that it can be pulled into shreds which, after special treatment, can be woven into cloth.

Another type of asbestos rock whose shreds are very short is mixed with very small pieces of grit or stone to form asbestos "concrete," sheets of which are used for making fireproof garages and other buildings. Some buildings are made of sheets containing the longer-shred asbestos, but they would be more expensive.

You can see from the picture how the houses of the workers in this asbestos quarry have been grouped around the works in an orderly fashion, with straight wide roads.

The big holes in the ground are the quarries from which the asbestos rock has been taken. Before the digging of the big holes began, all this district was covered with coniferous trees—you can see some of these trees in the picture.

Find on your map the town of Thetford, and any other places where asbestos is quarried.

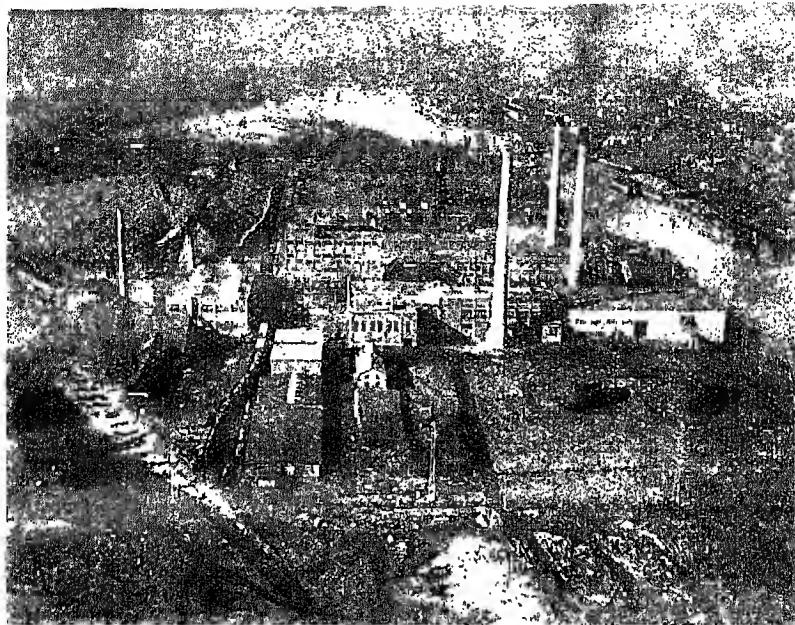
Make a list of the things in whose manufacture asbestos is largely used.

6 PULP AND PAPER MILLS, QUEBEC PROVINCE

OVER one million square miles of Canada is covered by coniferous forest, the chief tree in which is the spruce. Every Autumn, as soon as the first snow has fallen, the lumberjacks chop down the trees and haul the timber down to the banks of a frozen river. Throughout most of the Winter this work goes on, the logs being easily hauled over the hard frozen ground to the river bank, or to a nearby railroad. In the Spring the thaw begins, the ice disappears from the rivers, and the logs are floated down to the mills.

Can you see on the left of the picture the great pile of logs? These will be sawn into smaller pieces, crushed into even tinier sizes by spiked rollers, and then mixed into a mash with salt water that makes the wood-pulp.

If the mill also makes paper, this pulp is treated with special chemicals to make it into different kinds of paper products. Mixed with one kind of chemical it becomes aeroplane dope for painting



Pulp and Paper Mills, Quebec Province

Royal Canadian Air Force Photograph

the wings of aircraft, or non-splinter glass, or the acetate silk known as "Celanese." Treated with another chemical it becomes cellophane or sausage-skins, or "Rayon" silk used for stockings. With castor oil it forms artificial leather, and with other substances it can be made into gun-cotton and other explosives.

To do all this, a large supply of water is needed, so you will always find a paper mill near to a large river or lake. A very large supply of fuel is needed also, and in the case of Canada that supply is hydro-electric power.

The place shown in this picture is Three Rivers. The hydro-electric power for its mills comes from the Shawinigan Falls. Find both the town and the Falls on your map.

Make a list of the more common types of trees usually found in coniferous forests.

What other kinds of forests exist in Canada? Make a list of their chief trees.

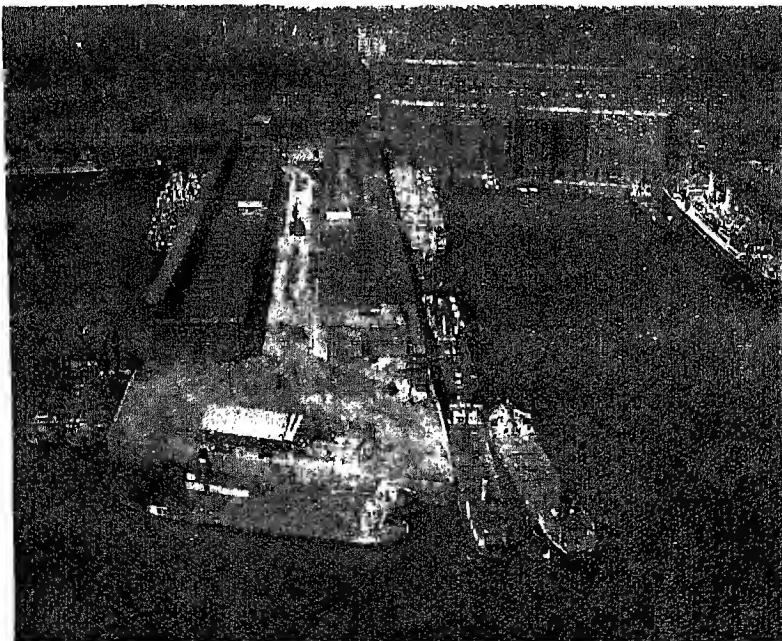
7

THE HARBOUR AT MONTREAL

MONTREAL is the largest city and the largest port in Canada, and second only to New York as a port of eastern North America. All but the very largest ships can get up the river to Montreal since the river has been deepened above Quebec, and the port has become the greatest wheat-handling place in the world for loading ocean-going ships.

The wheat handled at Montreal comes from the prairies, some by rail, some through the Great Lakes and then by rail from Lake Erie, and still more by smaller lake boats from the eastern end of Lake Erie. The large lake steamers from Port Arthur or Fort William cannot pass through the Welland Canal joining Lakes Erie and Ontario; so the cargoes are transferred to the railroad or to smaller vessels not requiring such deep water.

Look for some of these smaller boats in the picture. Notice that



The Harbour at Montreal

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

the engines are arranged at the sterns of the vessels and the navigation bridge is at the forward end. This arrangement leaves the rest of the boat's hull quite clear for quick loading or unloading.

The larger vessels in the picture are all ocean-going ships from European countries, mostly from Great Britain. But during the height of the harvest season, vessels from all over the world can be seen in the harbour, only a small part of which is shown in the picture.

The main part of the city of Montreal stands on an island in the river, but the city has now grown so much in recent years that it has spread a long way up northwards from the left bank.

Unfortunately, Montreal can be used as a port for only seven and a half months in the year, as the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes are frozen up from mid-November until the end of April.

How far up the St. Lawrence is Montreal? To what would you put down its importance as a port?

For how many months in the year is Montreal closed to shipping? To what ports does its traffic go in Winter?

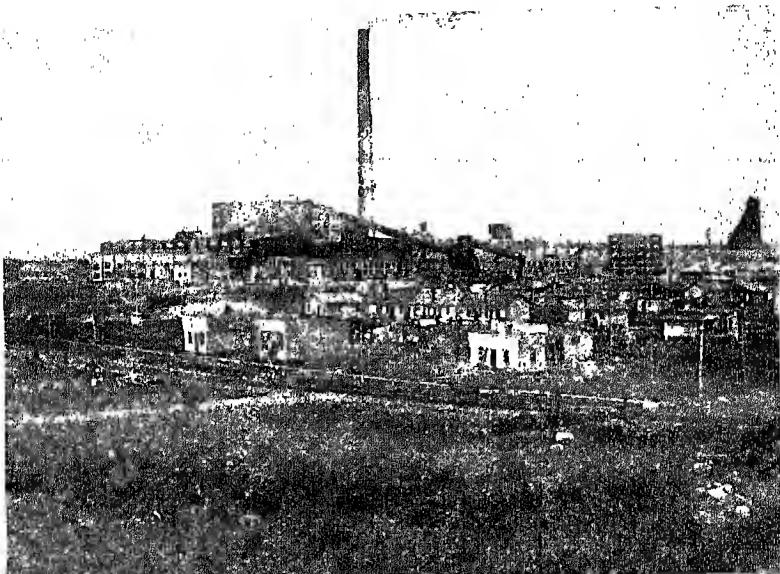
8

COPPER MINE, NORANDA, QUEBEC PROVINCE

DURING the past twenty years Canada has become very important as a country rich in minerals. Nearly every kind of mineral is mined.

Perhaps you have thought of Canada as the country for wheat-growing. Well, that is still true. Canada is still the chief exporter of wheat, and sends us also other cereals and many kinds of fruit. But over much of the northern and north-western parts of the Dominion, where the only vegetation is poor growth of the coniferous tree type, valuable mineral deposits have been discovered.

Gold has been mined for many years, although the first "gold rushes" were concerned with gold washed down into the river valleys by rushing water (alluvial gold). This is still found in many places where the sand or soil is scooped up from the river bed and "washed" many times until only the tiny grains of gold remain.



Copper Mine, Noranda, Quebec Province

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

But this picture is about another mineral—copper. This has become a very important mineral because of its many uses in modern industry, and Canada is one of the world's chief producers of copper.

Unfortunately, copper cannot be scooped up from the bottom of a river. The hard rock in which the copper is found has to be dug from the ground—sometimes from hundreds of feet underground. Then the rock has to be crushed under big mechanical hammers and the powdered rocks mixed into a thick "sludge" by using certain chemical liquids. After a lot of mixing and stirring, and the skimming of various things off the top of the sludge, the copper can be poured off and allowed to cool before being "refined."

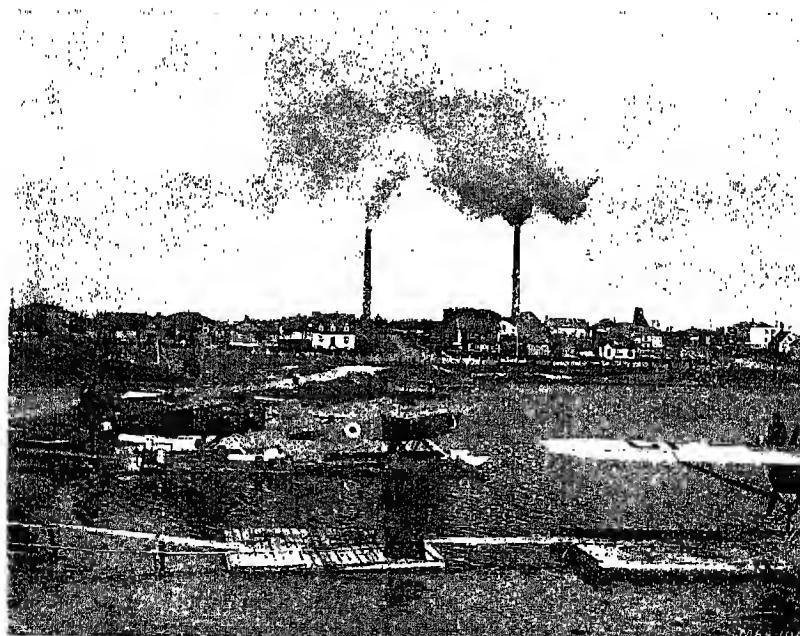
The picture shows one of the "smelters" where this process is carried on. Notice that almost all the buildings are of wood—wood is easy to get in this part.

Canada supplies over ninety per cent of the world's nickel. Find what other minerals Canada has a good supply of, and for each mineral give two articles in whose manufacture it is used.

AN AIR BASE NEAR NORANDA, QUEBEC PROVINCE

DO you remember what you have already read about the northern and north-western part of Canada? How the vegetation is poor coniferous type? It is also a very lonely part of Canada. There was not much to attract people to these regions. Very little would grow because of the poor soil and the long Winters. The finding of valuable minerals has meant that there are some settlements there now, but between the mineral camps there are long stretches of country where no one lives, and over much of the region are a great number of lakes and many swamps. These lakes and swamps make it difficult to build any railways or roads, and one very much used form of transport has been that of aircraft—seaplanes that make use of the lakes as "landing" grounds.

At one time there were many airlines that carried passengers and small amounts of cargoes to these places in what is called



Air Base near Noranda, Quebec Province

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

the Canadian Shield. Many of the airlines consisted of one plane only, and the men who did the flying were known as "bush pilots."

There are, at present, two main airlines in Canada. The Trans-Canada Airline, run to provide feeder service to the Canadian National Railway, is operated by the Canadian Federal Government, and is mainly concerned with trans-continental service.

The other company is Canadian Pacific Airlines, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and formed by the amalgamation of several small air transport companies, including most of the "bush pilots" airlines.

Our picture shows seaplanes waiting to transport men and materials from the Noranda mines in Quebec Province. In Winter, when the lakes are frozen over for at least six months, the floats of the planes will be replaced by skis so that the aircraft can land on the ice.

Write down the names of six large lakes in Canada other than the Great Lakes.

Locate some of the mineral areas of the Canadian Shield.

10

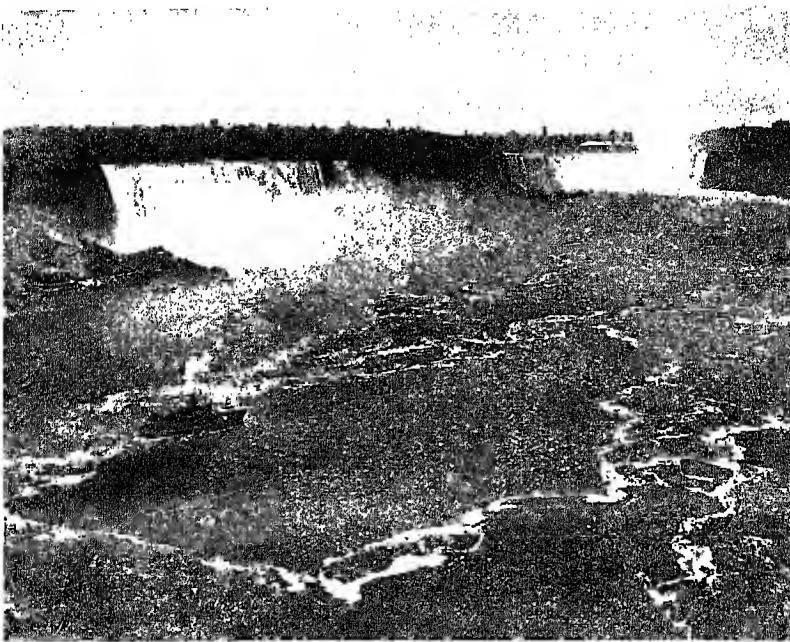
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO

THE water-level in Lake Ontario is 326 feet below that of Lake Erie. This fall in water-level occurs in a distance of about twenty-seven miles, and the rush of water has resulted in the formation of the Niagara Falls.

Falls occur where a layer of fairly hard rock is overlying a slightly softer rock. The rushing water wears away even the hard rock, but the softer rock is worn more quickly, so that often the hard rock falls in because it has no underlying support.

Of course, these Falls are an obstacle to any water-borne traffic passing from one lake to the other, so a canal was built alongside the stream that flows over the Falls. This is the Welland Canal, flowing from Port Colborne on Lake Erie to Port Weller on Lake Ontario. Eight locks are used to lift vessels the 326 feet, the three locks that ascend the Niagara escarpment being twin locks by means of which vessels may be passed up as others are passed down.

The present depth of the Canal (twenty-five feet) is now being



Niagara Falls, Ontario

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

increased to twenty-seven feet, which is to be the minimum depth of the new St. Lawrence Waterway from Montreal through the Great Lakes to Port Arthur and Duluth.

As you can judge from the picture, there is a great amount of water-power available at such a place as Niagara. Both Canada and the U.S.A. have made use of this power. From a point some distance above the Falls large pipes convey the water to the hydro-electric power stations below, where the rushing water causes turbines to turn rapidly. (N.B.—The actual water going over the Falls is *not* used.)

The Niagara Falls attract a great number of tourists, and in the picture is shown a tourist boat called the "Maid of the Mist," which takes sightseers close up to the Falls.

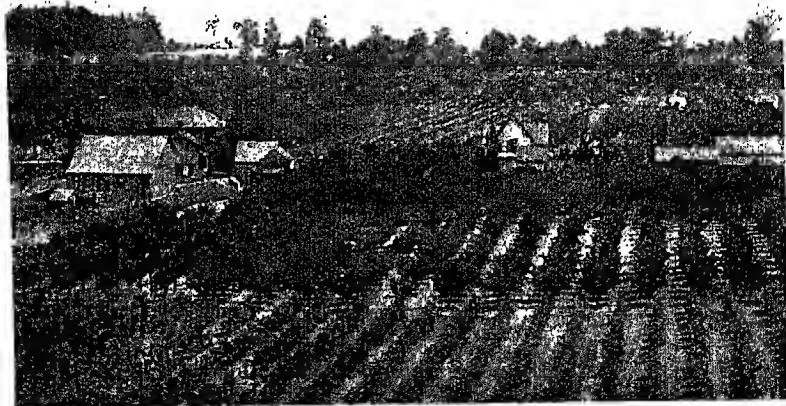
Write down the names of other Falls used for hydro-electric power.

What other stretches of the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes waterway needs canals?

II VINEYARDS IN NIAGARA PENINSULA, ONTARIO

FIND on your map of Canada the stretch of land between the three lakes—Ontario, Erie, Huron. This area is called the Lake Peninsula. The value of farm produce from this region is greater than that from any other Canadian region of similar size. This is due to the very fertile soil weathered down from glacial drift, and to the fact that this is the most southerly part of Canada and has, therefore, the warmest and longest Summers and, because it is almost surrounded by water, its Winters are the mildest in the Canadian interior.

Between the western end of Lake Ontario and the eastern end of Lake Erie is the area known as the Niagara Peninsula, which contains a region known as the Niagara fruit-belt, one of the most productive in the world. Temperate fruits, such as apples and pears, and



Vineyards In Niagara Peninsula, Ontario

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

"Mediterranean" or sub-tropical figs, peaches, apricots and grapes grow here.

The picture on the previous page shows some of these fruit farms in the Niagara Peninsula. In the foreground are grape-vines supported by poles and wires. Just behind the vines are the peach trees, and then more vines and some apricot bush-trees.

The tall trees in the background and to the left are either remnants of a large forest purposely left there, or especially planted, to act as wind-breaks, so that early Spring frosts may not spoil the fruit blossom. If there is any likelihood of these frosts, large smudge-fires will be lighted to the north-west, so that the prevailing breeze from that direction will blow the smoke over the fruit trees and act as a blanket.

Some of the fruit is sold as fresh fruit in the cities of the Lake Peninsula and of the north-eastern States of America, but the greater amount is canned, and the grapes made into vine.

To what great cities is the fresh fruit of this region sent?

The chief method of selling produce in this area is by "co-operative marketing." What do you think that means?

12

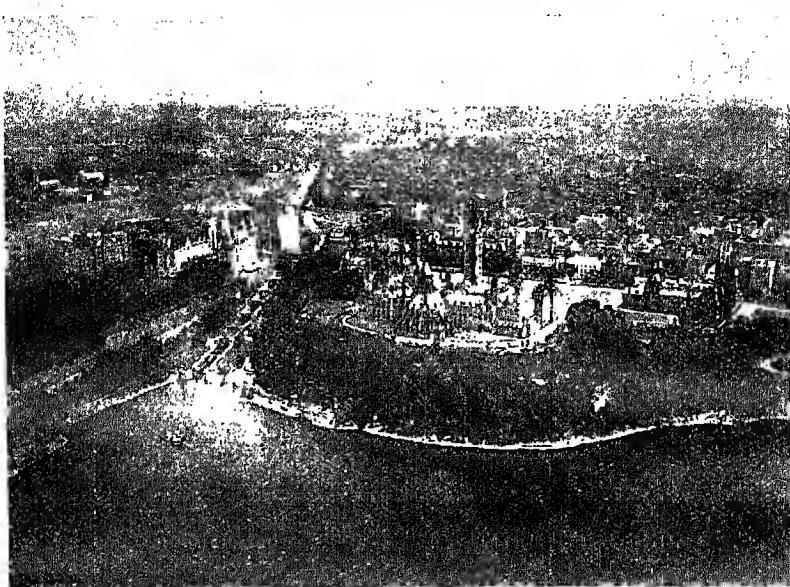
OTTAWA, THE DOMINION CAPITAL

IN 1867, Queen Victoria gave the royal assent to the confederation of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into the Dominion of Canada.

Because of the rival claims of the various large towns of the former separate colonies to be considered as the chief town of the new Dominion, it was decided that a new capital should be created. The choice fell upon Ottawa, and it was in this city that the Federal Parliament buildings were built.

Ottawa stands on the river of the same name, at a point opposite to where the Gatineau River joins the main stream at Hull. The falls in the Gatineau River provide electrical power for the industrial area in and around Ottawa, especially in Hull, the actual place where the hydro-electric power is obtained being at the Chaudiere Falls.

The chief industries of this area are mainly concerned with



Ottawa, the Dominion Capital

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

the supplies from local forests, being those of saw mills and paper and pulp mills.

In the picture, the large building in the centre on high ground is the home of the Canadian Parliament—the centre of the Federal Government. But each of the Provinces of Canada has its own Provincial government, which has its own Parliament buildings. Ottawa is in the Province of Ontario, and the capital city of Ontario is Toronto on the north shore of Lake Ontario. So the Provincial Government of Ontario has its headquarters in Toronto. The Government at Toronto can deal only with matters affecting Ontario itself, whereas the Ottawa Government deals with matters affecting Canada as a whole.

At the census of 1931 the population of Ottawa was 126,872.

What other countries have Federal capital towns that are not very important industrially?

Find where the Government buildings of the other Provinces are, and how big each place is.

13

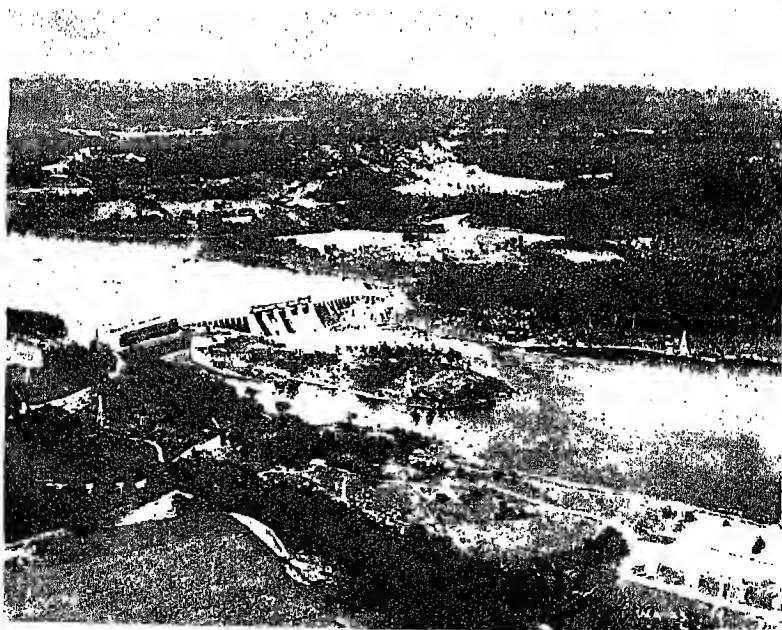
WATER-POWER IN CANADA

THIS picture gives a good impression of what the greater part of Northern Canada is like. This is part of what is called the Canadian Shield—a very large area of flat hard rock with only a thin layer of soil, in which grow the coniferous trees seen in the picture in such large numbers.

The Shield is dotted with thousands of lakes of all sizes, and these act as water-reservoirs, so that the streams flowing from the Shield always have a good supply of water.

This excellent water supply is of great benefit to Canadian industry, because it can be used to drive large hydro-turbines in hydro-electric stations, and the electricity can be conveyed easily to factories by overhead cables.

In the picture you can see that the river—the Gatineau River near Ottawa—has been dammed by a huge concrete wall at a point where the river was made narrower by an island. The main



Water Power in Canada

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

part of the dam is occupied by sluice-gates which can be opened or shut to control the flow of water through the narrower part of the stream. In this narrower part has been built the actual electric station, the water being carried down to the many-bladed turbines through metal pipes. This water-turbine is a very modern version of the old water-wheel. The revolving turbine turns the dynamo which generates electricity.

Hundreds of these conveniently situated hydro-electric power stations have been built in Canada. There are still many hundreds of places that are suitable for stations not yet needed. Thus Canada is compensated for the great distance of her coal supplies from the industrial areas by the ease with which water-power can be used.

Moreover, coal, once taken from the mine, cannot be replaced. Water will always be available in great quantities in North Canada.

The thousands of lakes in the Canadian Shield area are relics of the Ice Age. Find out what ice action had to do with their formation.

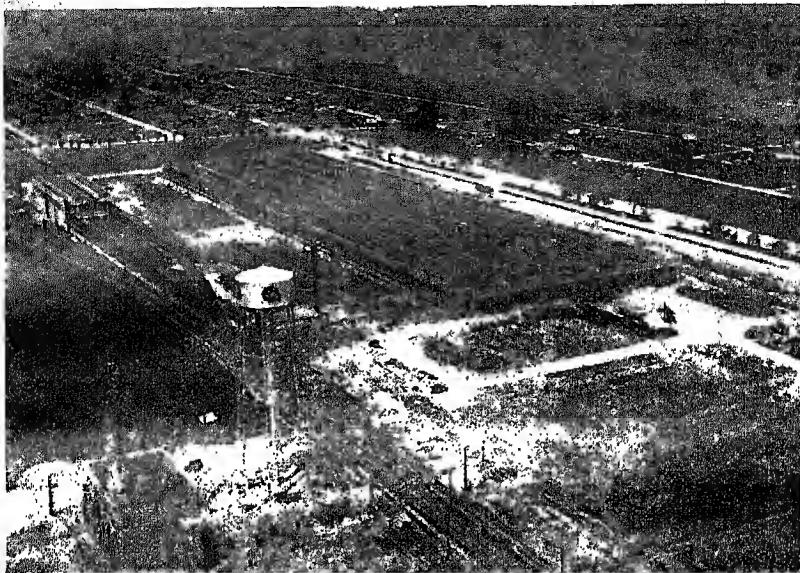
14 AUTOMOBILE PLANT, WINDSOR, ONTARIO

MANY of the lake-side ports of Canada have developed large industries. In some cases this has been due to some local deposit of mineral or to easy access to hydro-electric power. But in many cases it has been brought about because of the ease with which both raw materials and coal could be imported from the U.S.A.

Canada's deposits of iron ore are small, and the iron contains too much sulphur for it to be of very much use. But south of the Lakes are the iron fields of Pennsylvania, now not so important as formerly, and to the west of Lake Superior is the Mesabi Range iron deposits.

Iron-ore from the Mesabi area can easily be transported to the Lake ports by lake steamer, and to-day that is the chief source of the Canadian lake-side industries. One of the most flourishing of these is the automobile industry, based on the corresponding industry in the U.S.A.

Most of the large American car companies have a Canadian subsidiary company that manufactures its particular product in



Automobile Plant, Windsor, Ontario

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington

Canada. By having their cars made in Canada, they are able to avoid the protection tariff imposed on automobiles imported into the Dominion.

One of the greatest automobile cities in the world is Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., on the canalised river joining Lakes Huron and Erie. On the Canadian side of that river stands the city of Windsor, which has become the greatest automobile manufacturing centre in Canada.

Our picture shows the sheds containing the assembly plant of the Chrysler Corporation.

Note the flatness of the land in this region, which is part of the Lake Peninsula.

On a diagram of the Great Lakes, mark the Canadian lake-side towns, indicating their industries.

Trace out the two rail routes by which finished cars could be taken from Windsor to Vancouver—one through Canada, the other through U.S.A.

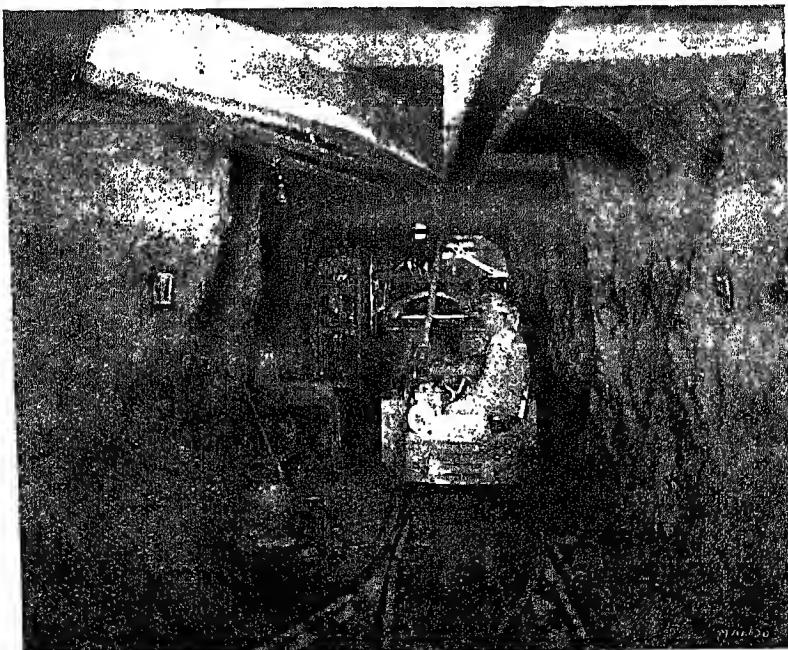
15

HOLLINGER GOLD MINE, ONTARIO

THE second largest gold producing region in the world is in that part of the Canadian Shield known as the Porcupine Camp. A great part of the gold of Canada comes from these very old rocks of the Shield.

Where the gold is found in veins, the work of digging out what almost amounts to gold-ore is known as *quartz mining*. This has been the source of most of the gold up to the present. But there are other minerals which, in their natural state, have gold and other minerals mixed with them, and the various minerals can be separated chemically. These occurrences are called *sulphide deposits*.

Gold of both these types is found in the Canadian Shield, but the quartz veins are particularly valuable in the regions known as Porcupine Camp and Kirkland Lake Camp.



Hollinger Gold Mine, Ontario

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

Gold-mining is now carried on by means of very up-to-date machinery, and considerable use is made of electricity, obtained so conveniently in this region because of the abundant water power.

The picture shows a scene in the Timmins gold-mine of Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines Ltd., who have another mine at Ross, both these mines being in the Porcupine district. The photograph was taken at the 1,200 feet level—that is, 1,200 feet below ground—but some of the mines have a 6,000 feet level.

Electric power is used throughout the mine, and you can see the trolley arm which receives electric power from the overhead, which is encased for extra protection.

The locomotive, under the control of the helmeted driver, is pushing loaded cars into the tipple, which is like a very large box and which is hauled to the mouth of the mine. The gold ore is then hammered into small pieces before undergoing treatment to extract the gold.

Naturally, there is electric lighting throughout the mine.

What other minerals are found in the area of the Canadian Shield?

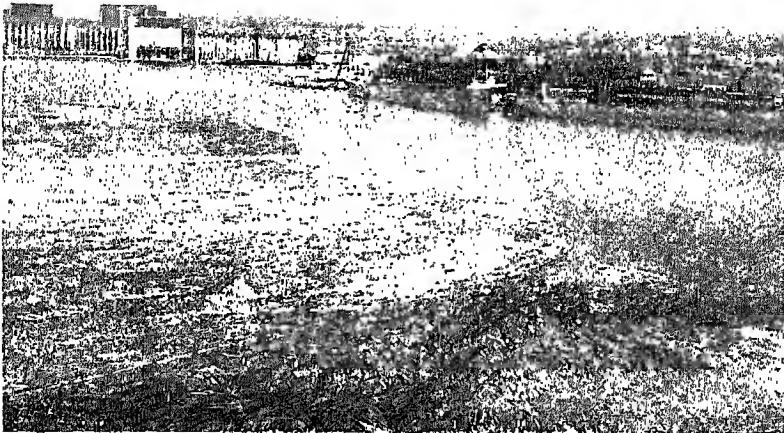
Why is there so much water power available in this part of Canada?

16. . . GRAIN ELEVATORS, FREIGHTERS AND LOG-BOOM, PORT ARTHUR, ONTARIO

THIS picture shows part of one of the great grain ports at the north-western end of Lake Superior. This is a port at which the prairie wheat leaves the railroad and is transferred to lake steamer.

The railway trucks containing the grain are run into the lower parts of the elevators—the tall buildings you can see to the left of the picture. Endless chains of scoops draw the wheat up into the elevators, where it can be stored until it can be poured down large shutes into the boats.

To the right of the picture are two of these lake boats—long and narrow so that they will pass easily through the canals joining the lakes. These two freighters may be used for carrying grain or iron-ore or coal. They belong to the Canada Steamship Lines, which is the greatest of the Canadian shipping lines using the Great Lakes.



Grain Elevators, Freighters and Log-boom, Office of High Commissioner for Canada
Port Arthur, Ontario

In the foreground of the picture is a very large log-boom, containing thousands of sawn tree trunks from the forests to the north. These logs are prevented from drifting away by barriers of logs chained together, and the wood may remain several weeks in the water until it can be used for building purposes, or until it can be towed away to some saw mill.

Port Arthur stands at the western end of the greatest inland water system in the world—a system which puts the prairies in easy touch with the ports of the world and which, as part of the St. Lawrence Waterway Scheme, will soon see very large ocean-going ships entering the St. Lawrence and proceeding all the way to Port Arthur for their cargoes.

Name other towns at the western end of Lake Superior. What railways bring wheat to these ports?

Through what canals do the freighters pass on their way from Port Arthur to Montreal? Do all the freighters make this journey?

17

COMBINE HARVESTERS, ALBERTA

SIXTY years ago thousands of wild bison grazed over the vast prairie land shown in this picture. Then came the settlers, attracted to the region by the newly-built trans-continental railway. The grass-covered soil was ploughed and planted. The soil was found to be very fertile, but the weather was not so kind. Shortage of rain was one drawback. Long, very cold Winters was another.

From the outside world came a great demand for wheat. The soil of the prairies was very suitable for this crop, but the existing types would not grow in the time between the thawing out of the ground and the coming of the Autumn frosts. After years of experiment types were produced that would ripen within one hundred and ten days of planting. Then the number of settlers in the prairie grew and grew, and the limits of the wheat stretched further to the north-west.

The Canadian Government divided up the land into "sections" one mile square. Most settlers occupied a "half-section";



Combine Harvesters, Alberta

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington

some a "quarter-section"; and a smaller number a whole section.

Large-scale farming was being carried on in the United States, and American manufacturers had begun making special labour-saving machinery for these large farms. Naturally, these machines were also sold to Canadian farmers.

The picture shows six combine harvesters at work on one farm. Each machine not only cuts the wheat, but threshes it as well. Sometimes the wheat is put into sacks and conveyed to the grain elevators by motor lorries; other farmers still load it in bulk into horse-drawn carts.

The harvesters in the picture are drawn by tractors, which are being more and more used, but there are still a great number of farms, especially those classed as "mixed" farms, where horses are used for pulling the harvesters.

What cereals other than wheat does Canada grow, and where?

The U.S.A. is the world's greatest producer of wheat, but Canada is the world's greatest exporter. Explain this.

CANADA possesses the largest known coal-field in the world. It has been calculated that millions of tons of coal lay beneath the southern regions of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Unfortunately, much of this coal is not very good and, in any case, it is many hundreds of miles from any industrial area where it might be needed as fuel. The only means of transport for this long journey would be by rail, and that would be very expensive.

The picture shows a miner boring a hole into the vein of coal. Can you pick out the vein? The hole will later be packed with blasting powder, such as dynamite, which will be fired, and the resulting explosion will break up the coal. Miners will then come along and shovel the broken coal into "trams" so that it can be taken to the pit-head.

Have you noticed the miner's hat? It is thickly padded on top in case he should strike his head against the low roof, and attached to the front of the hat is an electric torch.



Seam of Coal, Alberta

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

This particular mine is in the Province of Alberta, and the coal taken from it is used for household purposes, and for the railroad.

The other large coal-field area of Canada is in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island, where the coal is good bituminous and is used in local industries, and is even sent as far up the St. Lawrence as Montreal.

Between Montreal and Manitoba, however, is the greatest industrial region of Canada, and this region has no local supply of coal at all. Water-power is the great source of fuel, and the anthracite type of coal which is needed in the smelting industries is imported from the Pennsylvanian coal-field of the U.S.A.

What local industries are carried on in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island?

Why are there several towns near the Great Lakes engaged in smelting ores?

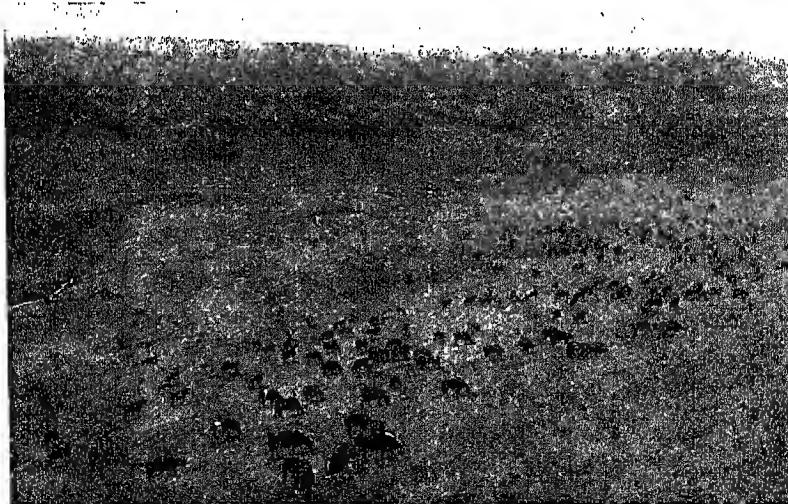
CATTLE RANCHING, ALBERTA

THE western part of the prairie region is an area of little rainfall because it lies in the rain-shadow of the Rockies. The rainfall is just sufficient to provide a rather dry type of grass over several hundreds of square miles of the western prairies, but is not enough to allow the growing of crops. Because of this, the western prairies are still "cattle lands."

The dryness and thinness of the grass of this semi-arid region means that the cattle must be allowed to roam over large areas to get sufficient to eat. This accounts for the very large areas of some of these western ranches—measured in square miles instead of in acres.

But although the grass of a large area will provide feed for the cattle, they are not likely to get very fat on it, so every year many thousands of them are driven eastwards to better pasture.

At one time the cattle were able to wander wherever they pleased—that was in the time of the "open range," when all the grassland was open to any cattle rancher. Nowadays, the system is that of the "closed range," which means that each rancher owns a piece of land with definitely defined boundaries usually marked with a wire fence.



Cattle, Ranching, Alberta

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

The picture shows part of the Collicutts Ranch, near Calgary, Alberta. Perhaps you can see the wire boundary or, at least, the boundary posts, going roughly across the middle of the picture. The cattle are Herefords—white-faced, with white strips over and under the body. Can you see the three "cowboys" seated on horses to the right? They keep the cattle on the move so that the ranch should be evenly grazed. The stream flowing across the land receives its water from the snowfields and mountain lakes of the Rockies.

Why are the western prairies in a "rain shadow"?

How can a farmer provide water for his crops if there is insufficient rainfall?

20

THE ALASKAN HIGHWAY

FOR many years there was talk of the building of a great highway from the U.S.A. northwards across Canada to Alaska. The United States favoured this roadway, because Alaska proved to be a very valuable possession to U.S.A. Canada was not altogether averse to the idea of a highway similar to this, for it would help to open up the Canadian North-West—a region showing signs of being rich in minerals.

It took the threats of war to get the road started. After the Japanese had made their attack on Pearl Harbour, the United States was an ally of Canada, and it was to the interests of both countries to see that there was direct overland touch with all parts of Canada and the U.S.A. Engineers of the American Army and members of the Canadian Corps of Royal Engineers began work at once on the "Alcan" Highway, as it was called at first. Huge machines such as we have become used to seeing in this country since the arrival of American troops were tried out in the making of this highway.

The picture shows a "carry-all," which has scooped up a load of earth and is being towed to a position where it can deposit its load so as to level up some uneven piece of ground. You will see that the roadway was made directly through the forests. Where a small mountain was in the direct path,



The Alaskan Highway

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

the engineers fixed dynamite charges and blew up the mountain so that the highway should be as straight as possible.

Now the highway is finished and provides a vital artery in North America's network of defence. It passes through bushland and over muskeg and rivers. Its present beginning is in tropical Mexico, for the Alaska Highway is but part of a greater plan for an all-American Highway right from Buenos Aires to Alaska.

The Highway travels along the eastern side of the Rockies and by-passes Edmonton, Alberta. Why was the eastern side chosen?

Suggest any ways in which the Highway might be of use to Canada?

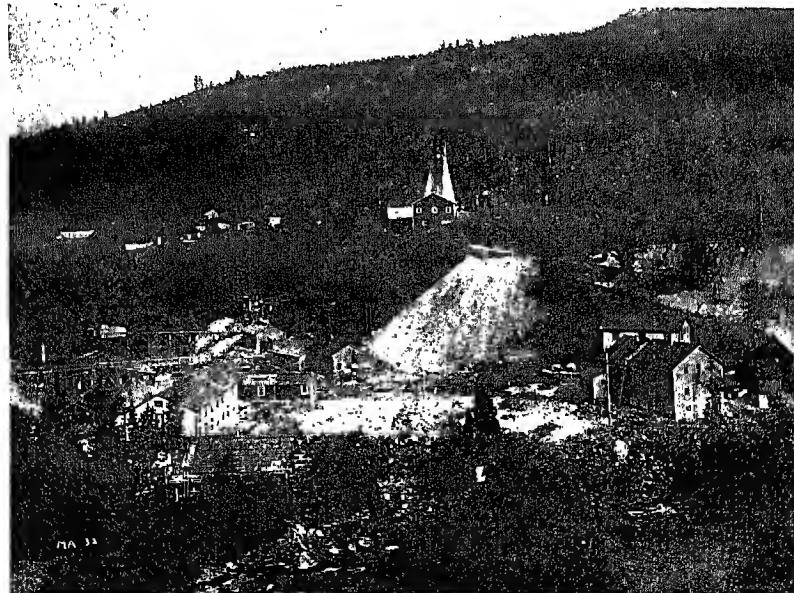
21

A GOLD MINE, BRITISH COLUMBIA

BEFORE the War, the most valuable mineral mined in Canada was gold. During the War, other metals were of more importance to the war effort, and many gold miners were taken from their usual jobs and given work in other metal industries. Because of this the value of the amount of gold mined has fallen to about one-fifth of what it used to be, because only about one-fifth of the amount can be mined.

Gold is found in many parts of Canada. For many years, the chief kind was alluvial gold. This was the kind of gold that was associated with the "gold rushes" already referred to. One of the greatest of these "ruses" was to the Yukon, in North Canada, and gold is still exported from this region.

Later, the gold still contained in rock was discovered and real gold-mining began. But this was a matter that required heavy machinery, not only to get the rock from the ground, but to pound it into small pieces so that it could be made



A Gold Mine, British Columbia

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

into a chemical "sludge" from which the gold could be obtained.

Nowadays, not much rock contains pure gold only. There are many other metals that can be obtained from the same rock—copper and silver are the usual ones.

The picture shows one of these gold mines in British Columbia. It is not possible to see any of the gold rock in the picture. The grey pile in the middle is waste material from the dried sludge after the gold and, in this case, a small amount of silver and copper have been extracted.

Notice that this mine is in a hilly district, and that the hillside is covered with coniferous trees. The buildings are constructed of wood, and there is a good water supply from the creek in the foreground.

Where else in Canada is gold mined? How did the old-time miners obtain their gold?

Can you suggest any reason why only coniferous trees appear in the picture?

22 RED CEDAR WOOD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE Province of British Columbia, with its good rainfall, has many large forest areas. To the north, and on the upper slopes of the mountains, the forests are mainly of coniferous trees. But to the south are many types of softwoods that are of considerable commercial value—trees of Douglas fir and western cedar on the lower slopes, and higher up come the red cedars and hemlocks, whilst higher still are the alpine firs and white-barked pines.

With such a wealth of wood, British Columbia naturally has a big timber industry, although she does not have the same type of Winter conditions to help her as you read about in the "pulp and paper" regions of Eastern Canada. In British Columbia, the snow on the lower slopes is not sufficient to make suitable skidways for the fallen tree trunks, and the coldness is not sufficient to freeze the very swift streams.

Much of the timber of this province is used for building purposes or for furniture making. Many of the doors and



Red Cedar Wood, British Columbia

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

window-frames fitted into houses built in this country during the past twenty years came from British Columbia, where they were made before shipment.

The picture above shows a saw mill that will deal with the short logs, or bolts, as they are called, of red cedar that you can see piled in the foreground.

Although red cedar is classed as a softwood, it is hard enough to stand up to quite severe climatic conditions, and at this mill the bolts will be split and sawn into flat pieces for covering the roofs of buildings. These flat pieces are called shingles in Canada and the U.S.A., and are commonly used where we would use tiles or slates.

Why does British Columbia receive a good rainfall?

How can a good fall of snow and heavy frosts help the lumberjacks in their work?

23 SALMON FISHING, BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE are three large fishing areas off the coasts of Canada. Off the coasts of Newfoundland is the Grand Bank, and off the coasts of Nova Scotia are the Western Bank and several smaller banks—all concerned mainly with cod and halibut.

Then there are the fisheries of British Columbia, concerned chiefly with salmon, with some smaller catches of halibut and cod. Much of the salmon fishing is done within the tidal estuaries of such rivers as the Fraser, Skeena and Naas.

Third amongst the Canadian fisheries is the fresh-water fishing of the lakes, especially the Great Lakes.

Our picture deals with the salmon fishing of British Columbia. All salmon are born in fresh water, and after a time make their way downstream to the sea, where they remain for some time. Then, when the time comes for them to lay eggs from which the young salmon will hatch, they make their way upstream to fresh



Salmon Fishing, British Columbia

Office of High Commissioner for Canada

water. It is when they are making their way upstream that they are caught in the estuaries of the rivers.

There are several methods of salmon catching. Sometimes motor-boats shed a long line of net across the path of the oncoming shoal of salmon, similar to the drift-net used in the North Sea for herrings. Another method is to allow the fish to swim through open gateways into enclosed "ponds." The seine-net is a third method, and in the picture is a drag seine-net being used on the Nimpkish River, British Columbia. This net is allowed to drift across the stream, one end being fastened and the other end attached to a wire rope which is taken downstream. When the net is across the pathway of a shoal of salmon, the wire rope is hauled in, bringing the net with it.

Almost all the salmon of British Columbia is canned.

Write down the names of eight kinds of fish caught in Canadian waters.

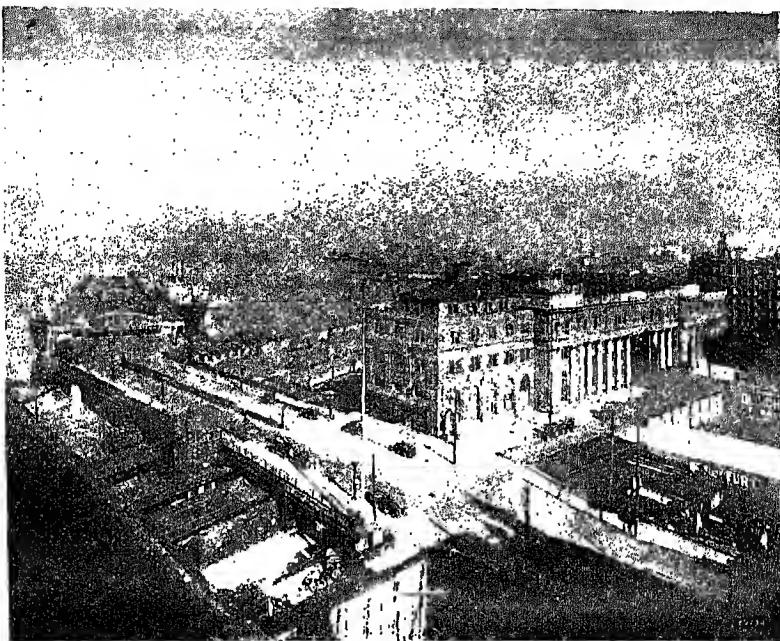
Write down the names of any well-known "fish oils."

24 **VANCOUVER—THE WESTERN GATEWAY OF CANADA**

SIXTY years ago, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company completed the task of building a trans-continental railroad to link British Columbia with Eastern Canada. The chief western terminus of the C.P.R. is at Vancouver.

To-day, Vancouver is the second largest export centre of Canada, ranking next to Montreal in the tonnage of goods shipped. Like Montreal, much of its trade is in the wheat from the prairies. The farmers of Alberta find it cheaper to send their grain over the mountains to Vancouver than to send it eastwards by train to Port Arthur. From Vancouver the grain travels to Europe via the Panama Canal.

Vancouver does not depend solely on this wheat trade. The port stands at the mouth of the Fraser River, a salmon river, and a great amount of canned salmon is exported through Vancouver. It is necessary to have factories in which the tin-cans can be manufactured and the wooden crates in which the tins are packed. There must also be shipbuilding and repairing yards for the needs of the fishing boats and the larger ocean vessels that enter and leave the port from and to all parts of the world.



Vancouver—the Western Gateway of Canada *Office of High Commissioner for Canada*

Most of the factories in this area use electric power obtained from the many waterfalls a few miles inland.

Our picture shows part only of the port of Vancouver—the C.P.R. station yard and Pier "D," from which the Canadian Pacific steamers sail for the Far East. The three funnelled boat is a C.P.R. vessel.

Fortunately, unlike Montreal, the harbour of Vancouver is open to ships all the year round. Its chief exports are wheat, fruit, canned salmon and manufactured timber goods, such as doors and window-frames. Its imports are iron and coal, and foodstuffs and luxuries from the Far East.

Find out the various ways by which wheat from the prairies can reach Europe.

Why is the harbour of Vancouver never frozen over?

To what large ports in the Far East will the C.P.R. vessels travel?

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA

SEVEN hundred miles south-east of New York, and six hundred miles east of the nearest American port, lies a group of the most northerly coral islands in the world.

The total area of this group is less than twenty square miles, and the largest island, called Great Bermuda, is fourteen miles long but only one mile wide. The whole group is known as Bermuda or The Bermudas.

Although these islands have a good rainfall, the coral sand is porous, so there are no streams or wells, and drinking water is provided by large water-tanks in which the rain-water is stored.

Because of the moist climate, however, plants grow very rapidly, especially as the islands are as far south as Charleston in South Carolina. The chief occupation of the workers on the islands is market gardening, partly to supply the demands of the New York and Canadian market for early vegetables, and partly to supply the tourist market in Bermuda itself.

The fine climate and the quietness of the islands has made the Bermudas popular as a holiday resort for people from U.S.A. and Canada, and the Canadian National Steamships run very fine passenger ships from Halifax, N.S., to Bermuda.

Much of the present importance of this group of islands to the Empire is as an Atlantic naval base and air station, and in the near future it is likely to serve as a stepping-stone for a trans-Atlantic airway.



The Island of Bermuda

D

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington

The chief town and port of the islands is Hamilton, which has an almost land-locked harbour with twenty-six feet of water, and is used for bunkering ships.

What other groups of coral islands are within the Empire?

As these are coral islands, how would you account for the high land shown in the picture?



**Wrapping Bananas for Transport,
West Indies**

*From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington*

26 WRAPPING BANANAS FOR TRANSPORT, WEST INDIES

ONE of the best types of fruit sent to us from tropical lands is the banana. This is a plant that requires high temperatures, a great deal of moisture and a deep soil. All these conditions are found in many of the British islands of the West Indies.

Bananas are the chief commercial export of Jamaica, where they are grown mostly in the north-eastern part of the island which is the region receiving the greatest amount of rain.

These bananas grow in groups or "hands" of from ten to fifteen individual fruits or "fingers" along a main stem of over one hundred bananas (each plant having only one stem), usually called a "bunch." You can see several of these bunches in the picture. Note also the large leaves of the banana plant. The bananas grow pointing upwards, and not hanging downwards as you may have seen them in shops.

Almost all the crop is grown for export, and that involves long transport by steamer. Because of this, the bananas are cut down when still green and hard, packed in the large leaves of the plant to prevent bruising, and taken down to special ships in which they are stored in cold rooms kept at a temperature of 52°F.

In this way the fruit reaches this country still green and hard, and may even arrive in your own town whilst still in this condition. Keeping bananas in this way means that they will stand the journey much better and with much less chance of bruising. Each bruise is likely to cause the banana to go bad.

Quick ripening of the fruit is carried out by hanging them in a room which is warmed by gas jets. Using gas jets ensures that there shall be a circulation of warm air around the bunches.

Name any other tropical or sub-tropical fruits that are sent to Great Britain from Empire countries.

Explain why there is so much negro labour in the islands of the West Indies.

27 EXTRACTING COCO-BEANS, WEST INDIES

MOST of the islands of the West Indies have grown cocoa trees at some time. The cultivation of cocoa has, however, ceased in some of them, but is still carried on in Jamaica, Dominica, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago.

The cocoa plant is rather a delicate plant when young, and is usually shaded by the large leaves of the banana plant until four years old. After that, the cocoa trees are sufficiently large for their upper parts to shade the rest of the tree.

The pods that contain the beans grow out directly from the tree trunks and stems, and are cut off with sharp knives, which are attached to a long stick to reach the higher pods, although on the larger plantations special long-handled knives

are used. The fallen pods are gathered into pannier baskets by native women and carried, sometimes on donkey-back and sometimes on the heads of natives, to the "breaking" party.

"Breaking" the pods is done by slashing them open with a sharp cutlass. Perhaps you can see one of the men in the picture doing it. The beans contained in the pods are scooped out and tossed into a basket.

Fermentation or "sweating," the next process, is one of the most important in cocoa production. During this process the beans lose their bitter fluid and change colour from white to a light or chocolate-brown. In the picture are some large banana leaves. The beans are spread on a layer of such leaves and covered with more leaves and left to ferment. Usually the beans are turned over once a day, so that they do not sweat themselves into a mildewy mess.



Extracting Coco Beans, West Indies

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington

After sun-drying, the beans are ready for market, and may be crushed into cocoa powder for drinking purposes, or mixed with sugar for chocolate-making.

What other parts of the Empire grow cocoa?

What other cash crops could be grown with cocoa?



Loading-up Sugar-cane, West Indies

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
South Kensington

28 LOADING-UP SUGAR-CANE, WEST INDIES

ALL the islands of the West Indies produce sugar from canes. In many cases this is the chief cash crop, whether it is grown on large plantations financed by wealthy foreigners or on the small farms of the natives, mainly negroes.

Throughout the islands the methods of cultivation are the same, excepting that in a few cases irrigation is necessary where the plantations are on the rain-shadow side of the mountains. The pieces of cane, cut so that each piece includes a "joint," are planted in a trench about one foot deep, covered with water and earthened over. From these pieces of cane grow the sugar plants to a height of about eight to ten feet.

Each plant will continue to produce for many years, but as it is found that the sugar-content begins to fall after the fifth year, it is usual to find one-fifth of a plantation being planted afresh each year.

The canes are cut down by workers using large knives called machetes, and loaded into carts similar to those shown in the picture. One mule can pull the loaded cart to the crushing mill, the other mule is there to give some help over the rough ground.

If the plantation is a large one it will have its own crushing mill, usually run by steam-power. The canes are crushed between heavy rollers to squeeze out the sugar juice, which may be passed on to a refinery, or shipped in its raw state to be refined in a distant factory in the U.S.A. or Great Britain.

The waste cane, called by the natives "trash," is fed into the fires that heat the steam boilers for working the factories.

Make a list of eight of the more important islands of the West Indies, and against each name put down two crops grown in that island other than sugar.

Which is likely to be the wetter side of these islands, and why?

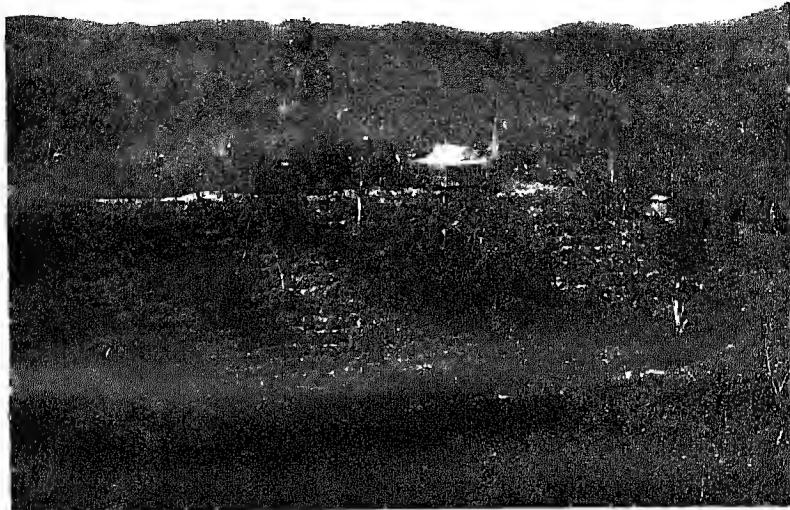
29

COFFEE PLOT IN JAMAICA

THE largest British island in the West Indies group is Jamaica, which has been part of the Empire since 1655. During the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth centuries it was very important because of its production of rum from the local sugar grown by slave labour.

The freeing of the slaves put a stop to a large part of this trade, and the standard of living amongst the native population is now rather low. There are nearly 900,000 people on this island of limestone, and over three-quarters of these are full-blooded negroes, and another one-fifth are coloured people with some negro blood in them.

Less than 15,000 of its people are white persons, and these are mainly concerned with the administration of the island, or are organizers of native work on the plantations.

**Coffee Plot in Jamaica***From the Imperial Institute Collections
South Kensington*

Most of the natives of the island make their living by agriculture, some by working their own small farms and others by working on white-owned plantations. The chief crops are banana, sugar-cane, coffee and pimento, or allspice.

Coffee grows well on hill slopes in warm regions where there is a good rainfall, and there are trees to shade the coffee plant from the direct rays of the sun. Our picture of a small coffee plot shows the plants arranged along a terraced slope. Note the taller trees and shrubs which provide the shade.

The settler's house is in the middle of the picture. Notice the wide roofed verandah, which prevents the sun shining directly into the room windows and helps to keep the house cool, and may often be used as an outside "room."

Kingston, the capital of Jamaica, acts as an entrepot for the near-by islands. What is an entrepot?

What other cash crops are grown in Jamaica?

30

LAKE OF PITCH, TRINIDAD

JUST off the north-east coast of Venezuela, not far from the mouth of the great Orinoco River, lies the island of Trinidad. In proportion to its population, Trinidad is the richest part of the West Indies, and this population is one of the most mixed, including negroes, Spaniards, Portuguese, Indians, East Indians and Chinese.

The chief crop of the island is cocoa, grown to the north-east, where the trade winds bring heavy rain. Sugar-cane, the second most important, is grown in the west, where the climate is drier and sunnier. Some of the sugar plantations are very well run, using modern machinery for both the cultivation and the refining of the sugar.

Other crops include coco-nuts (on the sandy coastlands of the north-east), coffee (on the hill slopes of the northern hill range), limes, oranges and grape-fruit.

The natural resource that brings most wealth to the island, although it doesn't employ a great number of people, is the lake of pitch in the south-west of the island. This lake



Lake of Pitch, Trinidad

From the Imperial Institute Collections,
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is supplied from some underground source and is continually being refilled.

As the surface of the pitch is fairly firm, it is possible to lay lines for a light railway on it, but the lines must be re-laid within twenty-four hours or they will have disappeared. The workmen use pick-axes and shovels to get out the pitch, which is loaded into trucks and sent to the refinery whose chimneys you can see in the picture.

The refined tar is shipped in barrels, much of it coming to this country. I expect you have seen it being used to "asphalt" a road.

Port of Spain is the chief town and port of the island, but the Trinidad Lake and Asphalt Company have their own port to which the barrels travel direct, by overhead cables, to waiting ships.

How far north of the Equator is Trinidad?

What steady wind blows across the island, and what effect will that have upon the climate?

Section Three

HISTORICAL NOTES

A. BRITISH EMPIRE IN NORTH AMERICA

I—THE RISE OF OUR EMPIRE

THE story of our Empire in North and Central America begins in the fifteenth century. In those days English ships were very small judged by our standards to-day—five, ten or twenty tons. Their usual voyages were round the British coast, over to France, to the Low Countries, or to the Channel Islands or to Spain.

How the Map of the World was changed in 1492

Take a modern map of the world and cover up America, Central and South Africa, Australasia, and the Arctic and Antarctic regions. What is left of your map is the known world of the early fifteenth century. In such a world the British Isles were isolated on the edge of Europe.

The man who altered the map was Christopher Columbus. His story does not directly concern us here, but you will know already that in 1492 he braved the unknown Atlantic, and landed in the West Indies—which he called "Indies," because he thought he had discovered D*

islands off the east coast of Asia. His master was King Ferdinand of Spain, and so the first settlements which were made in Central America were those of Spaniards. They found a great deal of gold and soon conquered the native Aztecs, and were determined to keep others away from their new discoveries. England was anxious to keep on good terms with Spain, and so her first attempts to find new lands were made in directions where it was thought the Spaniards would not be.

In 1496 another Genoese, John Cabot, and his son Sebastian, came to Bristol. England's civil war was over, and the new king, Henry VII, was anxious to encourage trade, gain prestige for himself and make money. He had heard of Columbus's success, and willingly gave permission for Cabot to make a voyage. John went off in the "Matthew" with a crew of only eighteen men, and landed somewhere further north than Columbus—probably in Newfoundland or Labrador. No attempt was made to settle English colonists in this part, and the King was disappointed that the Cabots had not found gold. The true wealth of the new coast was in its wonderful cod-fishing.

The Growth of the Navy under the Tudors

Both the first two Tudor kings helped to prepare the way for England's first colonies by building up a strong navy. Henry VII constructed the first real dry dock at Portsmouth and built many ships. Henry VIII took a great interest in the Navy. More and more of England's foreign trade came under the control of Englishmen, and there were bigger and better ships to carry it on. To Englishmen it seemed that their best chance of finding a new part of the Indies, without sailing too near Spanish land, was to look for a passage to the north-east. An expedition set out under Chancellor and Willoughby. They did not reach the Indies, but Chancellor got as far as Archangel, went on overland to Moscow, and made a treaty with the Czar of Russia, Ivan the Terrible.

The Reign of Elizabeth, 1559-1603

In the reign of Queen Mary English merchants began to challenge Portugal's monopoly of trade with West Africa, and in the reign of Elizabeth this challenge was extended to Spanish rights in the West Indies. The man who took the lead in the war against Spain was Sir Francis Drake. One of his aims was to stop the sending of treasure from the Central American colonies back to Spain. He made many raids on settlements situated along the Atlantic Coastline and Caribbean Sea.

The first Englishman to make a settlement in North America was Sir Humphrey Gilbert. In 1583 he was able to set out with five ships across the Atlantic, and reached Newfoundland. There a small settlement was made. On the return journey his ship sank with all hands.

But Gilbert's work was by no means lost. Sir Walter Raleigh went on with it. Early in 1584 Gilbert's brother, Adrian, set out on an expedition to the southern coast of East America, and gave a most favourable report. Raleigh established a colony there, naming it *Virginia*.

These new settlers had to face many dangers and difficulties. It was impossible to send them regular supplies from England, and the Indians were unfriendly. But their worst difficulties were those which they made themselves. They were greedy for gold and many of them were unwilling to work, or to keep any kind of discipline and order in their new home.

II—THE GROWTH OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

(1) *Virginia*

From 1606 to 1612 was the worst period in the history of Virginia—a period known as "The Starving Times." Supplies of food were poor and scanty, and there were strange fevers and diseases and constant quarrels amongst the colonists. The planting of tobacco saved the colony. The fashion of smoking was growing in England. From 1612 onwards Virginia exported more and more tobacco, and so at last the colony began to prosper. By 1670 its population had become 40,000.

(2) "New England"

That most important part of our early empire—the New England colonies—grew up in a space of a comparatively few years. We must first see why, and then how they developed.

Some people went to North America for trade, others to find gold and make a quick fortune. Most of the "New Englanders" went because they wanted a space where they could live in freedom. They were nonconformists—that is, Protestants who did not agree or conform with the Anglican Church. Soon groups of them began to decide that it would be better to brave the journey across the Atlantic if America would give them a home in which they could worship freely.

The most famous of all these new settlers was the first group, the

"Pilgrim Fathers." In 1606 a number of nonconformists had taken refuge in Holland, and whilst there a few of them decided to go on to North America. Altogether one hundred and two persons—men, women and children—made the voyage across the Atlantic in one of the most famous of all ships, the "*Mayflower*." This was in 1620.

The Pilgrim Fathers were used to living a community life, and accustomed to trials and hardships were prepared to work hard. Their colony, *New Plymouth*, was ruled by a governor, elected annually by a free assembly, for the new colonists had a good idea of democratic government, and their relations with the Indians were most friendly.

The second new England colony, *Massachusetts*, began in 1629. These colonists founded the first college in the English colonies in America. This became later the great University of Harvard. But they expected everyone who lived in Massachusetts to agree to their religious rules, and some colonists felt they could not do this. A group under Roger Williams formed another colony—*Rhode Island*.

Two other of the New England colonies were also founded by dissatisfied groups from Massachusetts—*Connecticut* and *New Haven*. Settlements made in *Maine* and *New Hampshire* were gradually absorbed by Massachusetts. The *New Hampshire* Settlement, however, became a separate royal colony in 1679, but that of *Maine* remained a part of Massachusetts till 1820. *Maryland* (a colony north of *Virginia*), was founded by Lord Baltimore in 1634 and peopled mostly by Roman Catholics, although some Protestants were included. This colony soon prospered; it grew corn and tobacco.

By the end of the seventeenth century England had gained other parts of North America. As a result of her wars with Holland she gained the district between New England and Maryland, which the Dutch called *New Amsterdam*. Under English rule it was renamed *New York*, after Charles II's brother, the Duke of York. Towards the end of Charles II's reign William Penn founded a colony for members of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, on land he bought to the west of *New York*. This colony was called *Pennsylvania*, and its chief town was *Philadelphia*, the "city of brotherly love." Thus by 1700 almost the whole of the eastern coast of North America was part of the British Empire.

III—WARS WITH FRANCE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

To the several settlements referred to on the previous pages must be added those made by the French, whose interest in the Western

World dates from the discovery of the St. Lawrence by Jacques Cartier in 1534, and the settlements at Quebec and Montreal (1608-1611) by Samuel de Champlain. By 1700 the French had colonies in Cape Breton Island, and in the district round Quebec and Montreal, and had begun to settle a district in the Mississippi Basin called Louisiana. They built a number of forts, and hoped thus to link up their different colonies. The English opposed this, as it would prevent them from moving inwards from the coast. So when war broke out between France and England it easily spread to America. By the Treaty of Utrecht, which ended the War of the Spanish Succession (1702-1713), France gave up Acadia (renamed Nova Scotia) to Britain. In 1745, during the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-1748), British troops captured the great French fortress of Louisbourg (on Cape Breton Island), but by the peace treaty of 1748 all conquests on both sides were restored, though ill-feeling continued.

The Seven Years' War (1756-1763) decided the fate of French North America, or as it is called to-day, Canada. The outstanding event was the capture of Quebec by General James Wolfe. Wolfe was a great soldier; the capture of Quebec a great and difficult task. He succeeded by a surprise attack. His men rowed up the river with muffled oars, in boats camouflaged with trees and boughs. Then they scaled the Heights of Abraham behind the city, and victory was theirs. Wolfe and the French General, Montcalm, were both killed.

In the treaty which ended this war England kept Canada, then only the district round Quebec and Montreal. Thus by 1763 she had a great Empire in North America. We have next to see how this old Empire came to an end, with the loss of the Eastern American colonies.

IV—THE WAR OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE (1776-1783) AND THE LOSS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIES

Since the beginning of the eighteenth century British colonists in North America had begun to feel that they had more and more cause for complaint against their Mother country. But the most important reasons for American discontent among colonists were concerned with the home government's attempt to enforce regulations on American trade. Moreover, in 1765 a Stamp Act was passed by the English Parliament, by which all public documents had to be stamped before they were legal. The money was to be the contribution of the colonies towards the upkeep of an army for colonial defence. Some Americans

began to feel that Parliament should not make laws for America. It became impossible to collect the Stamp duties, and so the now Prime Minister, Lord Rockingham, was forced to repeal the Act. But he very foolishly passed a Declaratory Act at the same time, which stated that Great Britain could tax America whenever she pleased. Soon after, Lord Townsend introduced taxes on tea, glass, paper and painters' colours. Again these were removed, and again the Government was tactless and kept the tax on tea. The result was the famous "Boston tea party." A group of colonists, disguised as Indians, boarded a ship of the East India Company which was laden with tea, and threw its cargo overboard. The British Government decided to make an example of the proud town of Boston and the colony of Massachusetts. It cancelled the Colony's Charter, and ordered Boston harbour to be closed. The Americans, for it is now more correct to call them that rather than colonists, acted rapidly. Except for Georgia, all the colonies sent representatives to a Congress which met at Philadelphia on 5th September, 1774. At the same time, an army was organized, and a little later on Thomas Jefferson drafted a "Declaration of Independence." The United States were formed, and they were to be free of all outside rule.

There had been minor skirmishes before, but the Declaration of Independence meant open war against Great Britain, a war which lasted from 1776 to 1783. At first the British Army was successful. Reinforcements arrived for the British, but instead of being a help the new army proved a disaster. It was surrounded by a greatly superior American force, and to save the lives of his men General Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga in 1777.

France and Spain decided to help the Americans, and French troops under General Lafayette joined the American army of General George Washington. In 1781, however, the Americans won a great victory at Yorktown, and the war was really finished, though peace was not made for another two years.

The Peace of Versailles, which was made in 1783, marked the end of the first British Empire, the end of what is sometimes called the old or first Empire. The independence of the colonists was recognized and a new country was acknowledged a great power, the United States. Great Britain was financially exhausted, and for some years she took little interest in her overseas Empire. In North America this now consisted of a land which was undeveloped

and unpopulated (excepting the French population of Quebec and some forty thousand colonists who left the rebellious colonies). This, however, was the land which became in the next hundred years the great Dominion of Canada.

V—THE DOMINION OF CANADA, 1783-1944

We have next to see how Canada's natural wealth, her mines, forests, fisheries, agriculture and industries, and her form of government, have developed since 1783.

Development of North America

In 1783 the population of Canada was distributed among five provinces—the province of Lower Canada (with the old French city of Quebec as its capital), the province of Upper Canada (further to the west and south, along the shores of the Great Lakes), Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Because the population of the first-named province was almost wholly French and that of the other four provinces mainly British, Pitt's Canada Act of 1791 recognized two separate Canadas, Upper Canada and Lower Canada. Central Canada was practically unknown although Lord Selkirk, with a number of Scotch pioneers, made a settlement on Lake Manitoba in 1811. The northerly district was only slowly developing, under the Hudson Bay Company, which gained its wealth by bartering ready-made goods in return for furs which the Indians were willing to exchange. The English Company prospered, and even developed its own currency for trade with the Indians, paper money known as "Hudson Bay Blankets." In 1869 the Company's lands were taken over by the central government.

The western lands were also slowly explored, though they had to wait till the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway before their proper development began. In 1793 Sir Alexander Mackenzie made the first crossing of North America. Some of the Western Indians were friendly and offered the white men presents. In 1808 Simon Fraser made the first descent of the river which now bears his name.

How Canada became a Dominion

From 1774 to 1791 Canada was a Crown Colony, that is, the country was ruled by the British Government at home. In 1791, as we have seen, Canada was separated into two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, each with its own assembly, which could raise taxes and pass laws subject to the approval of the Governor and Council, though the actual government of the country was still carried on by the British

Government in London. New cities, including Ontario, grew up, and the first of the great Canadian shipping lines was founded by Samuel Cunard of Halifax.

Some Canadians, especially French Canadians, were beginning to dislike being ruled by a government in Great Britain. There was open rebellion in 1837, and as a result the British Government sent out Lord Durham to find out why Canadians were discontented and to suggest improvements. He was made Governor-General of all the provinces of British North America, and suggested that Canada should be allowed to govern herself and have a parliament like that of Great Britain. The result of Durham's famous Report of 1839 was not all that he hoped, though in 1840, by the Reunion Act, all the country was re-united except for Newfoundland and the maritime provinces. But Canada did not reach the position Durham had desired for her till 1867, when the British North America Act was passed. This established Canada as a Dominion, consisting of the four provinces of Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

How Canada is Governed To-day

Before going any further with the story of Canada, it is a good plan to see how Canadian government works to-day. Canada has a Parliament of two Houses, a Senate and a House of Commons. In the latter, M.P.s are elected. In the former, Senators are nominated and remain members for life. (Compare this with the British House of Lords.) Parliament meets at Ottawa in Parliament House. Queen Victoria chose this town as capital in 1858, when it was only a small place of 24,000 inhabitants. Canada is joined to the rest of the Empire by her allegiance to the King-Emperor, who is represented by a Governor-General. But she is a fully-grown member of the British Commonwealth, and so free to do as she wishes in foreign policy and internal affairs.

How Canada grew after 1867

If you look at a map of the modern Dominion of Canada, you will see that it includes far more than the original provinces. This is because after 1867 all the rest of British North America (except for Alaska, which belongs to the U.S.A., and Newfoundland) gradually came to be included in the Dominion. This was completed in 1905, when Alberta and Saskatchewan were admitted. One of the most important additions was made in 1871, when British Columbia joined the Dominion. A glance at the map shows that this province is a long way from the prosperous eastern provinces. Yet it could

produce many things which the shipping lines needed for export, and the great industrial towns of the east also wanted timber and fish and furs, for example. The problem was how to get these products to the east, and so British Columbia joined the Dominion in 1871 on the condition that within the next ten years a transcontinental railway should be built. The result was the building of the famous Canadian Pacific Railway.

Newfoundland

One part of North America has remained separate—the Dominion of Newfoundland, which has had its own responsible government since 1855. Its territory includes Labrador, and its chief wealth is in its shipping and cod-fishing. It is, of course, a much smaller Dominion than Canada, and did not have a separate representative in the League of Nations.

The Canadian Pacific Railway, 1887

The Canadian Pacific Railway was one of the greatest of modern enterprises. Think what it means—to cut your way across an entire continent. Before the railway, the chief means of communication had been by canoe, or in winter by dog-sledges. For some years progress on the line was slow. Then a company was formed; the Dominion Government gave it as much wood as it wanted, and a grant of twenty-five million dollars. After ten years the railway was completed in 1885. The first train to go right through was covered with Jubilee decorations, for the year was 1887. Two men who gave this enterprise their determined support were Sir John Macdonald, Prime Minister of Canada, and Donald Smith (later Lord Strathmore).

Development of the Prairies and of the West

The building of the Canadian Pacific Railway was one great reason for the development of Central and Southern Canada. The second was the fact that in the middle of the nineteenth century Canada's population was greatly increased by a great flow of emigrants from Great Britain and other parts of Europe. These emigrants from Britain came chiefly because social conditions were bad in the home country and there was much unemployment. So they hoped to find new homes and fortunes in a new land. Another reason was the improvement in merchant shipping. By the 1880's it was possible for the raw materials which Canada produced to be exported in increasingly large quantities. Thus people were encouraged to settle in the areas which produced them.

British Columbia was the province which perhaps benefited most from the building of the railway, for it enabled new settlers to find new homes there, and salmon, timber and furs to be sent to the eastern provinces and to Europe. A fairly recent addition was the planting of apple orchards, which have made Canadian apples world-famous.

The short rushing rivers of Canada have become a marvellous source of water-power, and so now much of Canada's industry and domestic work is done by electricity. Other natural reasons which encouraged the development of the West have been the finding of gold in the Rocky Mountains and the development of lumbering.

At the same time the prairie lands of Central Canada also developed. This development was helped by the suitable climate and by the discovery of new kinds of wheat. Increasing populations in Europe meant an increased demand for this most important Canadian product. The three prairie provinces were eventually admitted to the Dominion--Manitoba in 1870, and Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1905.

Canada and the Great War, 1914-1918

In the Great War of 1914-1918 Canada, like the rest of the British Empire, came to the help of the Mother country and her allies. The first Canadian troops arrived in England as early as October, 1914. In Europe they fought gallantly, and by the end of the war there were more than 400,000 Canadian soldiers in France. The great Vimy Ridge monument stands to their memory.

Canada and the other parts of the Empire ; Ottawa Conference

In the late 1920's Great Britain, like other parts of Europe and America, went through a time of depression and financial hardship. Parts of the Empire suffered as well, for it was difficult for them to find markets for their goods. So in 1932 there met in Canada representatives from all parts of the Empire, for a Conference at Ottawa. The members decided on a policy of "Imperial preference"--that is, trade between different parts of the Empire was to be more encouraged than trade with foreign countries. Empire goods were not to pay such heavy duties. Shops in Great Britain had little notices asking people to "Buy British." As Canada has many new materials which she can exchange for manufactured goods, it was a very important step for her and, of course, for the whole Empire.

Canada and the Second German War, 1939

When Great Britain went to war with Germany again in September, 1939, the various parts of the Empire again came to her aid. Almost immediately Canadian soldiers came to England, and have since taken a great part in the outstanding events of the war—in France, in Norway and in Italy. The Royal Canadian Navy has been enlarged and Canadian destroyers play an important part in keeping open the Atlantic lifeline in the war against the U-boats. The Canadian Merchant Navy has also increased in size. One of the most important contributions which Canada has made to the war effort has been the part she has played in the Empire training scheme for the Air Force. Flying schools have been built in the Dominion, and young airmen of all nationalities train there.

Canada has also helped the war in other ways. She has built prison camps for prisoners of war and received a large number of interned enemy aliens. In the early days, when invasion of the British Isles seemed all too likely, she welcomed large numbers of British children. Financially, the Canadian Government has been helped by subscriptions to Canadian war loan. Economically, Canada has sent Great Britain a generous supply of raw materials of all kinds; British ships have been refitted in Canadian harbours, and British people fed with Canadian cheese, fish and wheat.

Conclusion

Like the rest of the Empire, Canada benefited under the Statute of Westminster of 1931, which placed all Dominions on equal terms with Great Britain. The second German War has more closely connected even than before the parts of the Empire or, more correctly, the British Commonwealth, and many Canadians have stated the need for this co-operation to continue afterwards. There is little doubt that Canada will remain a great member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

B. BRITISH EMPIRE IN THE WEST INDIES

An important part of our Empire is in Central America—the West Indies. The Spaniards were the first to reach these islands; in fact, it was on an island of the Bahama Group that Columbus landed. Many

of the islands remained Spanish until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when they declared themselves independent.

From the British point of view, our West Indian possessions have a double importance. They are strategic air and naval bases and they provide a number of valuable raw products, of which the chief are sugar, oils, cocoa, bananas and, in the case of Trinidad, asphalt.

Our contact with the West Indies began in the days of Elizabeth, when Drake and Hawkins made raids on Spanish bases there. British settlements were first made in Barbados and St. Christopher, but the early settlers suffered terrible hardships from the climate, strange diseases and the raids of the terrible Carib cannibal Indians. A great gain was the occupation of Jamaica in 1655, and during the late seventeenth century and the eighteenth our settlements began to prosper. More and more sugar plantations were made and a class of wealthy planters grew up, who relied for their labour on African slaves brought over in large "slavers." The slave trade was a wealthy business, and many merchants and shippers profited by it. There is no doubt that hundreds of slaves lived lives of utter misery, for it was cheaper to replace a slave when he or she died than to look after him carefully. At last people in England began to realize what had happened, and in 1833 the trade in slaves was abolished. By this time, Great Britain's possessions in the West Indies had greatly increased—as a result of her wars with France. By the Treaty of Vienna of 1815 she kept these additions, including St. Lucia, Trinidad, and Tobago.

Unlike Canada, the West Indies have not a Dominion form of government. They represent two different types of political development. In those islands which are the most advanced, e.g., the Bahamas and Barbados, there is a governor who is the ultimate ruler. He is helped by an Assembly, which makes laws and which represents the peoples of the islands, but he can overrule it. In the less politically-developed islands, e.g., Trinidad, there is a governor, but not a representative assembly. The aim of the British Commonwealth is, of course, to so educate the peoples of these islands that they will soon be able to govern themselves.

A P P E N D I X

Text of Declaration signed by Empire Prime Ministers at the close of their London Conference on 16th May, 1944 :--

We, the King's Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, have now, for the first time since the outbreak of the war, been able to meet together to discuss common problems and future plans.

The representatives of India at the War Cabinet and the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia have joined in our deliberations and are united with us.

At this memorable meeting, in the fifth year of the war, we give thanks for deliverance from the worst perils which have menaced us in the course of this long and terrible struggle against tyranny.

Though hard and bitter battles lie ahead, we now see before us, in the ever-growing might of the forces of the United Nations, and in the defeats already inflicted on the foe by land, by sea and in the air the sure presage of our future victory.

Until Freedom

To all our armed forces who in many lands are preserving our liberties with their lives, and to the peoples of all our countries whose efforts, fortitude and conviction have sustained the struggle, we express our admiration and gratitude.

We honour the famous deeds of the Forces of the United States and of Soviet Russia, and pay our tribute to the fighting tenacity of the many States and nations joined with us.

We remember, indeed, the prolonged, stubborn resistance of China, the first to be attacked by the authors of world-aggression, and we rejoice in the unquenchable spirit of our comrades in every country still in the grip of the enemy.

We shall not turn from the conflict till they are restored to freedom. Not one who marches with us shall be abandoned.

We have examined the part which the British Empire and Commonwealth of Nations should bear against Germany and Japan, in harmony with our Allies. We are in cordial agreement with the general plans which have been laid before us.

Holding Nothing Back

As in the days when we stood all alone against Germany, we affirm our inflexible and unwearying resolve to continue in the general war

with the utmost of our strength until the defeat and downfall of our cruel, barbarous foes has been accomplished.

We shall hold back nothing to reach the goal and bring to the speediest end the agony of mankind.

We have also examined together the principles which determine our foreign policies, and their application to current problems. Here, too, we are in complete agreement.

We are unitedly resolved to continue, shoulder to shoulder with our Allies, all needful exertions which will aid our Fleets, Armies and Air Forces during the war, and thereafter to make sure of an enduring peace.

We trust and pray that the victory, which will certainly be won, will carry with it a sense of hope and freedom for all the world.

The Good of All

It is our aim that, when the storms and passions of war have passed away, all countries now overrun by the enemy shall be free to decide for themselves their future form of democratic government.

Mutual respect and honest conduct between nations is our chief desire. We are determined to work with all peace-loving peoples in order that tyranny and aggression shall be removed or, if need be, struck down wherever it raises its head.

The peoples of the British Empire and Commonwealth of Nations willingly make their sacrifices to the common cause.

We seek no advantages for ourselves at the cost of others. We desire the welfare and social advance of all nations and that they may help each other to better and broader days.

We affirm that after the war a World Organization to maintain peace and security should be set up and endowed with the necessary power and authority to prevent aggression and violence.

Our Common Burden

In a world torn by strife, we have met here in unity. That unity finds its strength, not in any formal bond, but in the hidden springs from which human action flows.

We rejoice in our inheritance of loyalties and ideals, and proclaim our sense of kinship to one another. Our system of free association has enables us, each and all, to claim a full share of the common burden.

Although spread across the globe, we have stood together through the stresses of two World Wars, and have been welded the stronger thereby.

We believe that when victory is won and peace returns, this same free association, this inherent unity of purpose, will make us able to do further service to mankind.

